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It must ensure development, but in a low-carbon direction

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India routs Zimbabwe in second T20I

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With 2 more killed, 6 militants dead in long operation at Kulgam

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

With two more bodies found during the second consecutive day of gunfight at two encounter sites at Kulgam in south Kashmir on Sunday, a total of six militants were killed in the operations that stretched on from the previous evening.

Two soldiers were killed in the gunfight with militants.

Separately, one soldier was injured in a militant attack at Rajouri.

"There were two encounters at separate places. The bodies of six terrorists have been recovered so far," Jammu & Kashmir Director-General of Police R.R. Swain said.

The police and the Army continue to carry out combing operations at the encounter sites at Chinigam and Motergam, where security forces circled two locations and engaged hiding militants in firefights on Saturday.

"Once the operation is fully over, we will be able to find out the identities and affiliation of the slain terrorists," Mr. Swain said.

Officials said one soldier was killed in the Chinigam encounter, and another in the Motergam gunfight. They were identified as Lance Naik Pardeep Kumar and Sepoy Pravin Janjal Prabhakar.

Army jawans stand guard on the second day of encounter in Kulgam. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Chinar Corps Commander, the J&K Chief Secretary, and the J&K DGP paid homage to the deceased jawans.

"Chinar Warriors salute the valour and sacrifice of both bravehearts. We stand in solidarity with the bereaved families and are committed to their well-being," a spokesperson of the Army said.

Rajouri attack

One soldier was injured as militants mounted an attack on an Army installation in Rajouri on Sunday.

Officials said militants fired at an Army camp in the Manjakot area at Galuthi in Rajouri around 4 a.m. The security personnel manning the camp retaliated, and a search operation was launched after the attack to trace the militants.

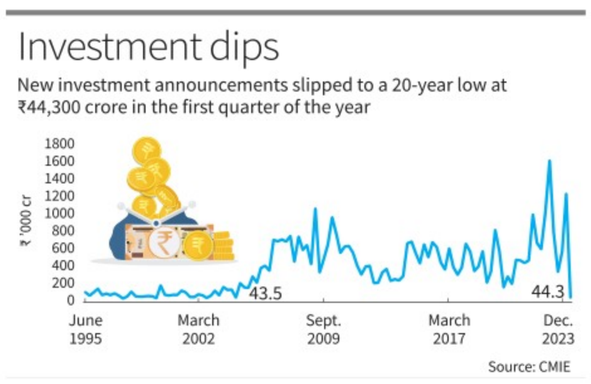
New private investment plans slumped to 20-year low in Q1

Just ₹44,300 crore of fresh outlays announced by corporates; the corresponding period in the past financial year recorded new investment announcements of nearly ₹7.9 lakh crore; investors adopting a wait-and-watch approach, says economist

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

In an exceptionally slow start to private capital expenditure in this financial year, new investment plans in the country slumped to a 20-year low in the April-to-June quarter, with just ₹44,300 crore of fresh outlays announced by corporates.

The first quarter of 2023-24 recorded new investment announcements of nearly ₹7.9 lakh crore, while outlays worth ₹12.35 lakh crore were announced in the January-to-March quarter. In all, last year had seen investment announcements worth ₹27.1 lakh crore, the second highest in 10 years.



"Since the economy has been growing steadily, the only reason to explain the sluggish investment plans in the last quarter could be that the industry has been in a wait-and-watch mode," said Bank of Baroda chief economist Madan Sabnavis, who hoped that investments should pick up in the coming quarters. While the April-June quarter tends to have fewer investment announcements, they have been exceptionally less this year, the bank's economic research department said in a note based on data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).

While a part of the tepid investment levels in Q1 could be explained by investors adopting a wait-and-watch approach amid the Lok Sabha election, this tally is far lower than in the corresponding quarters during the Lok Sabha elections in 2014 and 2019. New investment plans were at ₹2.9 lakh crore in Q1 of 2014-15 and ₹2.1 lakh crore in Q1 of 2019-20.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

NEARBY

'No wrongdoing on part of CM or his wife'

MYSURU
Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa refuted allegations of any wrongdoing on the part of either Chief Minister Siddaramaiah or his wife, with regard to the compensatory site allocation for their land acquired by MUDA. » Page 9

PID issue riles citizens

BENGALURU
The inordinate delay in issuance of PID numbers by the BBMP to A Khata holders is proving to be a hindrance to citizens who want to pay property tax promptly.
» Page 2

IIIT-B to start a new campus

BENGALURU
The International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore has announced ambitious expansion plans, including starting a new campus and launching a B. Tech programme. » Page 3

EDUCATIONPLUS » PAGES 4, 5 & 6

Exit polls show French left on course to defeat far right

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

A loose alliance of French left-wing parties thrown together for snap elections was on course on Sunday to become the biggest parliamentary bloc and beat the far right, according to shock projected results.

The New Popular Front (NFP) was formed last month after President Emmanuel Macron called snap elections, bringing together socialists, greens, communists and the hard-left into one camp.

Veteran presidential candidate Marine Le Pen's National Rally (RN) led the race after the June 30 first round, with opinion polls predicting that she would lead the biggest party in Parliament after Sunday's run-off.

However, according to projected results, the left-wing group is predicted to take between 172 and 215 seats, Mr. Macron's centrist Ensemble 150 to 180 and the National Rally 115 to 155 seats.

FULL REPORT » PAGE 16

PRAWAH team visits project sites in Belagavi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A team of officers from the Mahadayi PRAWAH (Progressive River Authority for Water and Harmony) visited Belagavi district on Sunday as part of its tour of three riparian States of Mahadayi river, amidst opposition by Kannada organisations.

They visited Chorla and Kanakumbi apart from the project sites of Kalasa and Banduri, and held a meeting with officials of Irrigation and other departments.

The team will visit Bengaluru on Monday where it will hold a meeting with officials of various departments.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 6

Mob kills leopard at Deodurg in Raichur dist.

The Hindu Bureau
YADGIR

An angry mob killed a leopard on the outskirts of Kamadal village in Deodurg taluk of Raichur district on Sunday, right in front of Forest, Police and Revenue officials after the animal attacked three people. According to sources, the leopard attacked them around 9 a.m. on Sunday when they were heading to work. The injured have been identified as Ranganath, Papayya, and Ramu, and they have been admitted to the taluk hospital in Deodurg, where treatment was provided and their condition was stated to be stable.

When the news of the leopard attack spread, many people of surrounding villages rushed to the spot.

On receiving information, the Forest Department officials and staff, rushed to the spot and started making preparations to catch the leopard by placing a cage there.

The mob got angry and many began screaming and searching for the leopard, that was near some rocks. The mob attacked the leopard with stones, clubs, and other materials, killing it when it came out from behind the rocks, sources said.

Eye-catching

Tourists flock to Gokak Falls in Belagavi district after good rains make it a sight to watch. P.K. BADIGER

Water to be released from KRS and Kabini reservoir to fill up lakes

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Owing to good inflow into the Krishnarajasagar (KRS) and Kabini reservoir during the last few days, authorities have decided to release water from them to canals. However, they have made it clear that the water is meant to fill up lakes and waterbodies, besides meeting drinking water requirements of cattle.

A decision on releasing water for kharif crop of 2024-25 will be taken by the irrigation consultative committees of the respective command areas of the reservoirs after assessing the monsoon in the coming days and the consequent inflow of water into the dams.

The Kabini dam in H.D. Kote taluk of Mysuru district. FILE PHOTO

While Minister for Agriculture N. Cheluvarayaswamy, who is also Minister in charge of Mandya district, said water would be released from KRS to Visvesvaraya canal for 15 days from July 8, a statement issued by Executive Engineer of Kabini and Varuna canal circle in Mysuru said water would be released from Kabini reservoir to the left bank and right bank canals for 16 days from July 10.

Thanks to good rainfall in the catchment areas of KRS and Kabini over the last few days, the water level in KRS was 102 ft as against the full reservoir level of 124.8 ft while it was 2,281.56 ft as against 2,284 ft (above sea level) in Kabini reservoir at 8 a.m. on Sunday.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2

State govt. set to begin 'Naavu Manujaru' programme in schools

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

With the stated objective of turning all educational institutions in the State into centres of social harmony, tolerance and scientific temper, the government has ordered implementation of 'Naavu Manujaru' programme from this academic year.

Implementation of this programme would involve discussions and dialogues for two hours per week (with three periods of 40 minutes) in all government, aided, and unaided primary and high schools of the State, the order said. One period of value education and two periods of Socially Useful Productive Work (SUPW) have been adjusted to this.

This programme was announced in the State Budget of 2024-25, presented by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, to inculcate values enshrined in the Constitution among children.

Officers have been advised to provide appropriate guidance regarding the implementation of the programme and appoint nodal officer at the district level, and submit a report to Department of State Educational Research and Training (DSERT), the order said. No special grant will be given for the implementation of the programme.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has released a format for implementation of the programme. FILE PHOTO

The Department of School Education and Literacy has released a format for implementation of the programme.

Lessons on harmony

According to the format, discussion should be held on social harmony and its significance, based on local and national festivals, folk games, sports etc.

Discussion on the thoughts of social reformers, visiting and sharing information on outbound/local famous places, cottage industries, discussion on nuclear and non-nuclear families, discussion on elimination of inequality and dialogue on constitutional values like equality, liberty and fraternity, will be the part of the implementation of the programme.

Creating awareness among children about scientific temper, environmental consciousness, eradication of superstitions and reconciliation of superstitions and science is also part of the programme. To create awareness about science in everyday life, discussions are to be held on home remedies, experiments conducted using a science laboratory, and efforts made to develop a questioning attitude by designing activities to develop curiosity among the students,

Co-existence

Group activities are to be planned to convey to the students the importance of midday meals, sahabhojana (community lunch), school garden management, indoor and outdoor games and *desi* sports for everyone to participate in. Awareness is to be created on equal opportunity and its significance.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2

Ambitious AFI looking to shake up the status quo of Indian athletics

Post the Paris Olympics, the association has planned to completely restructure its training and competition modules, possibly allowing more freedom and opportunities to athletes in both; this includes doing away with centralised national camps, grading the training centres and academies and increasing regional events for easy access to competitions

Elevated: Gurindervir, centre, will be among the many athletes bolstered by the changes AFI is set to make. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Uthra Ganesan

Neeraj Chopra's success in Tokyo 2020 led to an explosion of interest across the country in javelin throw, a sport that for many Indians for many years was one of those fringe events that happened on the sidelines of the more glamorous races on the track.

Proving that an increase in number corresponds to quality, Indian athletics now has several javelin throwers either among the world's best or knocking the doors at the top level - across age groups. The success has also spurred the Athletics Federation of India's (AFI) ambitions, which now plans to broad-base the entire sport across the country.

Expanding its horizons

Post the Paris Olympics, the AFI has planned to completely restructure its training and competition modules, possibly allowing more freedom and opportunities to athletes in both. This includes doing away with centralised national camps, grading the training centres and academies and increasing regional events for easy access to competitions.

"See, when you have one national camp, you can only have a maximum of 120-130 athletes, across events. But a lot of athletes say they do not wish to leave their personal coaches or training bases and come to the national camps even though they might get better facilities. We have even invited athletes to bring their own coaches to the national camp but they still don't want to. We also know why they don't want to come to camps. So we have decided to tell the athletes, 'do whatever you want to, train wherever you want to, with whichever coach you want. The relay teams will be an exception since they need to train together.

"Of course, it makes keeping track of their progress and an eye on whether they stay clean more difficult. But even now, many of them are reluctant to travel and many don't. This way we will have more training centres and be able to cater to many more athletes who wish to avail top-level facilities, we are looking at at least 650-700 athletes in the national set-up," AFI president Adille Sumariwalla said in an exclusive interaction with *The Hindu*.

One way the AFI is looking to do so is by streamlining and grading all the training centres in the country on the basis of the facilities available. These will include the existing government set-ups at the various Centres of Excellence - both central and state - the privately managed ones including the likes of Army Sports Institute, the Reliance Foundation and JSW's Inspire Institute of Sports and the likes of standalone academies like the PT Usha School or the Anju Bobby Foundation.

"We have prepared a detailed criteria of more than 30 parameters to rank the facilities from grade A to E. These include the equipment available, accommodation, coaching facilities, personnel, track, sports science facilities, recovery and rehabilitation and much more. Registering them all will help us keep track of the activities and grading them will also provide an incentive to those ranked below to improve because their funding will be directly according to their rank," Sumariwalla explained.

At the same time, he insisted, there will continue to be single training bases for specific events with dedicated coaches - both Indian and foreign - with athletes having access to them regardless of being a 'national camper' or not.

"Thiruvananthapuram will remain our main centre for sprints. Bengaluru will remain the centre for middle-distance running and jumps. Patiala will continue to be the centre for throwers. Those who want to can always come and train there. I can confidently say that there is no better facility than our camps - in terms of physios, food, equipments, masseurs, everything. There will continue to be a national chief coach and a High Performance Director - for seniors and juniors - and their job will be to monitor everything, control, get feedback and help create a training microcycle. We are simply trying to spread better facilities with access to more people," he added.

> We have prepared a detailed criteria of more than 30 parameters to rank the facilities from grade A to E. These include the equipment available, accommodation, coaching facilities, personnel, track, sports science facilities, recovery and rehabilitation and much more.
> **SUMARIWALLA**

Access to better coaches

The decentralisation of training, he said, will also help more athletes access and train with the foreign coaches, both contracted with the federation and private centres. A case in point is the newly crowned 100m champion Gurindervir Singh, who is not a national camper. Gurindervir revealed after the race that he had spoken to James Hillier, athletics director of Reliance Foundation, who had invited him to train at their high performance centre in Odisha post Olympics.

Hillier, in fact, has been quite popular here - he was even seen assessing and giving tips to a local kid who approached him on the eve of the Inter-State Championships. "Just a kid, he came up and asked if I could look at him so why not?" Hillier had shrugged.

"This is the kind of thing we are looking at. Otherwise only the national campers have access to foreign coaches. Now we will have event-specific coaches based in certain centres and any athlete can approach them. The coaches will also travel to other centres regularly," Sumariwalla said.

The only pre-condition is that every coach has to be registered with the federation - including the foreign coaches and those employed with the private academies. "Athletes always get penalised but coaches rarely do. Why should they get away? Mentioning the coach will be mandatory for every athlete at every competition, "We are giving them the freedom to train as they like. But we are also telling them, 'we will get after you, we will be tracking you. There will be a monitoring system and as soon as we see some performance, we will do whatever we have to to ensure you are clean.

"Athletes do all sorts of things outside, which is why we put up the rule of taking only campers in national sides. They went to the Supreme Court also but it luckily ruled in our favour. Those things will continue, there will be cases in future also, we are ready for that. But the kind of drastic improvements in performances that happen are often inexplicable. I am not casting any aspersions on anyone but there is always a doubt because of previous incidents," he admitted.

Revamping the calendar

The AFI is also looking at spreading the competition calendar and adding more regional events to ensure more competition. "We are looking at a senior and junior open championship in every state. When there is a Grand Prix in Bengaluru or Patiala, everyone has to travel there and there are only so many national events you can have. We want more local and regional level meets so players can go there and participate, get warm-up competitions before big events.

"We are also in talks with World Athletics for at least one continental tour event in India. We are also talking to various stakeholders and sponsors but we need time to work out the details - the time slot for the event, the facilities and long-term commitment from those interested to host before deciding the venue. We also have to keep in mind the best interests of our athletes - it cannot be in pre-season or in October-November, when the best talent in Asia may not be available. Let's see."

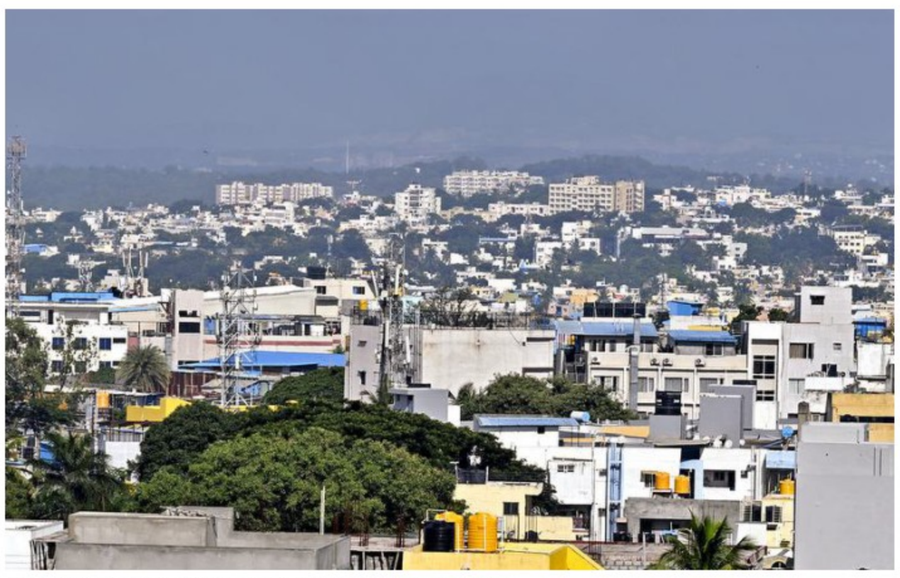
THE GIST

- One way the AFI is looking to revamp its operations is by streamlining and grading all the training centres in the country on the basis of the facilities available
- At the same time, AFI president Adille Sumariwalla insisted, there will continue to be single training bases for specific events with dedicated coaches – both Indian and foreign – with athletes having access to them regardless of being a 'national camper' or not
- It is also looking at spreading the competition calendar and adding more regional events to ensure more competition

Delay by BBMP in issuing PID hits citizens' efforts to pay property tax

A senior civic official while admitting the problem blames the existing system for it. He says hundreds of such cases are pending in many offices of the civic body, and only digitalisation of the entire process will solve the issue

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU



High-rise buildings and apartments in Benglauru. FILE PHOTO

The inordinate delay in issuance of property identification (PID) numbers by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike to A Khata holders is proving to be a hindrance to citizens who want to pay property tax promptly.

They are now forced to run pillar to post or left at the mercy of agents who fleece them. According to a revenue official, there are hundreds of such cases pending.

For instance, Vinay T. (name changed), who has a flat in Bellandur, has been struggling for the past two months to get the PID so that he can pay the property tax due under the one-time settlement (OTS) scheme rolled out by Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

"The BBMP, dependent on property tax for its financial resources, does not appear keen on issuing PID. I applied for the same in May, but I have not received the PID." Mr. Vinay said touts at the local civic body office are demanding ₹3,000-₹4,000 to get him a PID. He refused to pay the money since he was not in the wrong.

Another resident of Wilson Garden told *The Hindu* that he was fed up with visiting the BBMP office multiple times.

"Every day, they say the process will be completed in the next two days. The same statement is repeated during every enquiry for PID. I have been struggling to get the PID for the past three months.

A senior civic official admitting there is a delay in issuing PID blamed the existing system. He said hundreds of such cases are pending in many BBMP offices, and only digitalisation of the entire process will solve the problem. He said that the civic body was working towards the same.

Another BBMP official said there are two reasons for the delay. One is technical, and the other is corruption. When someone applies for the PID, the BBMP must verify the documents, which takes some time. There are many fake documents that the land mafia can generate, and to rule out this, the BBMP is extra cautious. Explaining another reason he said the agents have a nexus with the BBMP officials. The officials delay the process, forcing the property owners to approach the agents. After collecting the money, the agents have to give a cut to these officials, he explained.

Uneven roads pose a threat to motorists

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

An uneven stretch of road from Hulimavu Gate to Dairy Circle on Bannerghatta Road. K. MURALI KUMAR

Even as the civic body has begun filling potholes, the unscientific way it is being done has resulted in dangerous uneven roads, say motorists.

Recent data show that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has 424 potholes to be filled. However, the numbers change daily as new ones surface due to rain. The BBMP claims they are scientifically filling the potholes using cold-mix technology. But motorists claim the patches don't come up to the road surface, posing a danger to the riders.

For instance, at Vajarahalli, where the potholes were filled recently, the surface has become uneven in many places. Vajapeyam Srivatsa, a resident of Vajarahalli, told *The Hindu* that these roads were unsafe.

"We were relieved to see workers filling the potholes. But we soon realised that the poor execution of work has given rise to another problem. At night, these roads are prone to accidents. Many parents drop their children at school on this stretch," Mr. Srivatsa said.

Sudarshan Yadav from J.P. Nagar said, "When bikers apply brakes on these uneven surfaces, like on Bannerghatta Road, the vehicle skids and falls. The BBMP has to keep the safety of riders in mind while filling the potholes. Who is responsible for accidents due to bad roads? Will BBMP pay compensation to the accident victims?" Mr. Yadav asked.

Kiran Kumar, an activist, said the BBMP is doing this hurriedly without following proper engineering standards, creating safety hazards.

However, a BBMP official in the Road Infrastructure Department said the civic body had been scientifically filling potholes and the problem of uneven roads was not rampant.

From Page One

Water to be released from KRS and Kabini reservoir to fill up lakes

Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy, who held a meeting of the Irrigation Consultative Committee of KRS command area on Saturday, said a decision to start releasing water to the VC canal from the evening of Monday was taken owing to the demand from legislators of Mandya district.

Normally, water is released to VC canal in the second week of July every year. But this year, a decision on it had been taken on July 8 itself as no water could be released during March in view of the insufficient water availability in the reservoir.

The decision to release water for 15 days from July 8 had been taken only to ensure that lakes and other waterbodies were filled up with water and facilitate the drinking water requirements of the cattle, he said, adding that a decision to release water for crops would be taken after assessing the monsoon over the next 15 days and the quantum of inflow into the reservoir.

Meanwhile, the Executive Engineer of Kabini and Varuna circle, who is also the member-secretary of Kabini Irrigation Consultative Committee, said a decision to release water to the canals was taken keeping in mind the inflow of water into the reservoir during the monsoon rains and the overall availability of water in the reservoir.

Canal modernisation

Referring to the ongoing works on modernisation of VC canal, Mr Cheluvarayaswamy said about 36 km of work had been completed and work on the remaining 16 km would be taken up after release of water was stopped.

On the trial blasts in the vicinity of KRS, the Minister said a decision on holding such trial blasts would be taken before July 15 after discussing the matter with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and the Advocate-General.

Govt. set to begin 'Naavu Manujaru' programme

Speaking to *The Hindu*, B.B. Cauvery, Commissioner of Public Instruction, said: "DSERT is the implementation authority of this programme aimed to improve the capacity of the students to think independently, rationality and understand the pros and cons of every issue. It will be executed in all schools of the State soon," she said.

BBP welcomes male elephant calf

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bannerghatta Biological Park on Sunday announced the birth of a male elephant calf. "BBP is delighted to announce the birth of nine-year-old Elephant Rita's first calf on July 7, 2024. The newborn is a male, and the complete herd is very protective of our latest addition," BBP said. It added that with the birth of this calf, the total number of Asian elephants at BBP is 27, with 12 males and 15 females.

Vasanth Mokashi, screenwriter of Shankar Nag's 'Accident', no more

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Vasanth Mokashi Punekar K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Vasanth Mokashi Punekar, who wrote the script of Shankar Nag's well-known Kannada film *Accident,* passed away on Sunday.

A native of Dharwad, Vasanth Mokashi, was suffering from a prolonged illness. He is survived by his wife Asha.

Son of renowned Kannada writer Shankar Mokashi Punekar, Vasanth made the film *Gangavva Gangamayi* based on the popular novel of the same name by his father. Vasanth mostly spent his days as a writer in Bengaluru and Mumbai.

"It was lovely working with him for *Accident,*" said Arundhati Nag, actor and founder, Ranga Shankara. "I felt enlightened whenever I spoke to him. He would often visit Ranga Shankara with his wife. I regret that I couldn't work with him more," she added.

Accident, a crime drama known for its fine visual storytelling, won the National Award for Best Film on Other Social Issues in 1985. The film bagged five Karnataka State Film Awards, including for Best Screenplay for Vasanth Mokashi. In an interview with the film portal *Film Companion,* Mokashi said that the story of *Accident* was inspired by a real event in Mumbai.

Strong visual sense

Vasanth Mokashi had a strong visual sense, said well-known writer and film critic N. Manu Chakravarthy. "He wouldn't write your regular linear plots. He liked constructing abstract realities driven by images," said Mr. Chakravarthy, adding that he was extremely fond of Hindi poetry, with Dhoomil being one of his favourites. Mokashi was also a great admirer of filmmakers Kamal Swaroop and Mani Kaul. In 2014, Mokashi served as the artistic director of the Karnataka International Children's Film Festival.

CEO of news channel arrested for extortion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The J.B. Nagar police arrested the Chief Executive Officer of a Kannada news channel for allegedly running an extortion racket through a honey trap.

Based on a complaint by the owner of a spa, the police tracked down R. Venkatesh and his associates, charging them with blackmail, extortion and criminal intimidation.

According to the complaint, the accused would send a woman as a decoy seeking a job as a masseur in the spa.

Once she bagged a job, they sent a man as a customer to book a massage slot.

The masseur and the customer, part of the racket, would video record their private intimate moments and hand them over to Venkatesh.

She would vanish from the spa soon after the video was recorded. Venkatesh would later allegedly barge into the spa posing as a news channel reporter and accuse the spa management of running a prostitution racket.

The accused would allegedly later demand ransom and threaten to air the story with the video to tarnish the image of the spa and the management.

The owner of the spa has now lodged a complaint leading to the FIR.

While the police have now arrested Venkatesh, efforts are on to arrest other accused, including a woman anchor.

Minidrone Competition India 2024 at IISc

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

MathWorks, in association with the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, is organising the Minidrone Competition India 2024. It is open to students from universities and institutes in India who must submit applications by July 31.

Two rounds

There would be two rounds, with the first being the simulation round wherein the participants will have to develop path planning, image processing, and control systems for a minidrone line follower in simulations. The teams that qualify from round one will be invited to the round two live event.

Round two involves teams deploying their Simulink model at the live event on the Parrot Mambo Minidrone hardware using the Simulink Support Package for Parrot Minidrones. MathWorks will provide each participating team with complimentary software for the problem statement. The teams will also be provided with the Parrot Mambo Fly drone, batteries and dongle on the day of the competition in case of an in-person event.

The simulation submission has to be done by August 14. The finalists will be declared by September 4. The final round of the competition will be held at the Department of Aerospace Engineering, IISc, on September 27 and 28.

Senior citizen injured after flex board falls on him

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 70-year-old man was injured when a flex board fell on him in Rajanukunte, on the outskirts of the city, on Saturday. The hoarding was put up by a resident to convey birthday wishes to his friend.

The victim, identified as Bhaktavatsalam, is a resident of Singanayakanahalli and was returning home after fetching his granddaughter from school when the accident happened. The girl, along with other passersby, escaped narrowly, but Bhaktavatsalam sustained severe injuries and was rushed to a nearby hospital, where he is being treated in the Intensive Care Unit.

The Rajanukunte police reached the spot, inspected the accident scene, and removed hoardings and flexes put up in and around the area.

The police have asked the panchayat authorities to check whether permission was taken to put up the board. The police have also asked panchayat officials to identify and remove illegal hoardings in public places, causing inconvenience to people.

Meanwhile, hoardings, which have been banned in the city for the past six years, are all set to make a comeback under the new advertisement policy.

TAMILNADU POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tender through e-procurement platform at **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** as per the instructions in the tender specification Coal (SHIP) – 164 Dated 05.07.2024 for time chartering of One Self-Trimming Panamax / Kamsarmax gearless vessel for coastal movement of coal by TNPGCL:

Sl No.	Specification No.	Description of Work / Materials	Due date & time for submission of e-tender
1	Coal (SHIP) -164 Dated 05.07.2024	TIME CHARTERING OF ONE SELF-TRIMMING PANAMAX / KAMSARMAX GEARLESS BULK CARRIER VESSEL WITH THE LAYDAYS FROM 20th JULY 2024 to 05th AUGUST 2024 FOR A PERIOD OF 3 MONTHS +/- 1 MONTH CHOPTION	**16.07.2024 Upto 14:30 Hours.**

Submission of E-Tender: THROUGH THIS HYPERLINK **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
Date & Time of commencement of download of Tender Specification : **17:00 Hrs. on 08.07.2024**
Date & Time of closing of download of Tender Specification : **14:30 Hrs on 16.07.2024**
Soft copy of Tender Specification:
The tender specification can be downloaded from TANGEDCO website **www.tangedco.gov.in,** from Tamil Nadu Government Web site i.e. **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and from National Informatics Center website **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** free of cost.
Tender will be opened: Through the NIC portal **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/2230/Tender/2024 **CHIEF ENGINEER / MECH / COAL, TNPGCL / CHENNAI-2**

THE ERODE DISTRICT COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LIMITED
CATTLE FEED PLANT, CHENNIMALAI ROAD, ERODE-638 001. Email ID: eroaavin.cfp@gmail.com Contact No:8883600143
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited through online system(Technical &Commercial Bid) from the various work contractor for cattle feed production for two years from the date of issue of work order (2024-26) detailed below.

Sl.No	Name of the Tender	
1	Dumping of Raw materials and stacking of Finished product	
2	Cleaning of cattle feed plant (Production block, Raw materials Godwon, Finished Product Godwon, Silo area, House keeping	
3	Mineral Mixture production & 1 kg packing	
4	Supply of manpower for the operation and Maintenance of 300MT CFP & 12 MT MM	
1	Last Date & time for receipt of online Tender forms:	**09.08.2024 upto 10.30 am**
2	Place, Date & Time of opening a. Pre bid meeting b. Part –I Technical Bid c. Part – II Commercial Bid	**Cattle Feed Plant, Chennimalai Road, Erode-1** **19.07.2024 11.30 am** **09.08.2024 at 2.00 pm** **(After scrutinization of technical bid)**
3	The Tender Form, EMD, Tender Terms Conditions and all other details can be downloaded on free of cost from **"www.tntenders.gov.in".** If there is any change in the tender process will be updated in the above website only	
4	The Decision of General Manager EDCMPU Ltd, Erode shall be final conclusive and all bindery in all matters relating to this tender	

Palce : Erode, Date : 05.07.2024 DIPR/2229/TENDER/2024 **General Manager, EDCMPU Ltd.**

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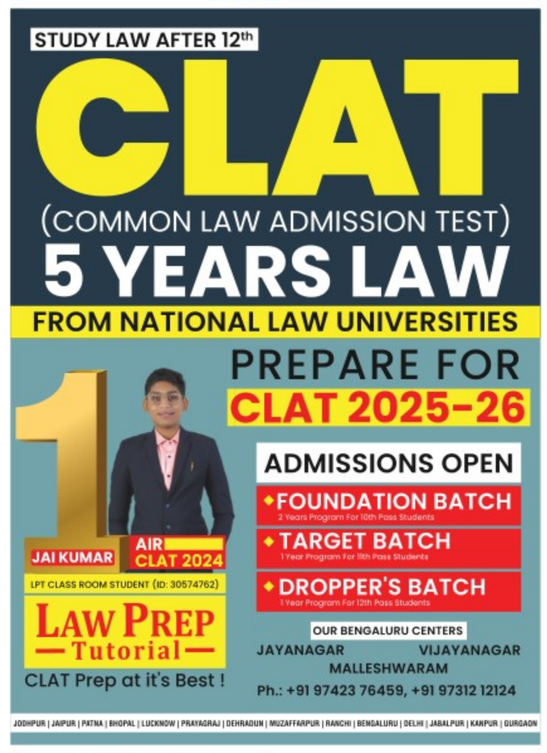

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, M.MEERNA, aged 53 years, W/o Mr.S.Milton, presently residing at No.32, 3rd Cross, Maruthi Enclave,New Rajanna Layout, Horamavu Agara, Bangalore- 560043, do hereby state that prior to my marriage my maiden name was M. Vennila Vasantha Kumari. I got married to Mr.S.Milton on 12.09.1988 and changed my name to M.MEERNA which is my true and correct name for all times to come. Whatever I have stated is true and correct and I have sworn and executed an Affidavit dated 1.07.2024 before Notary UdayKumar K. Bengaluru.

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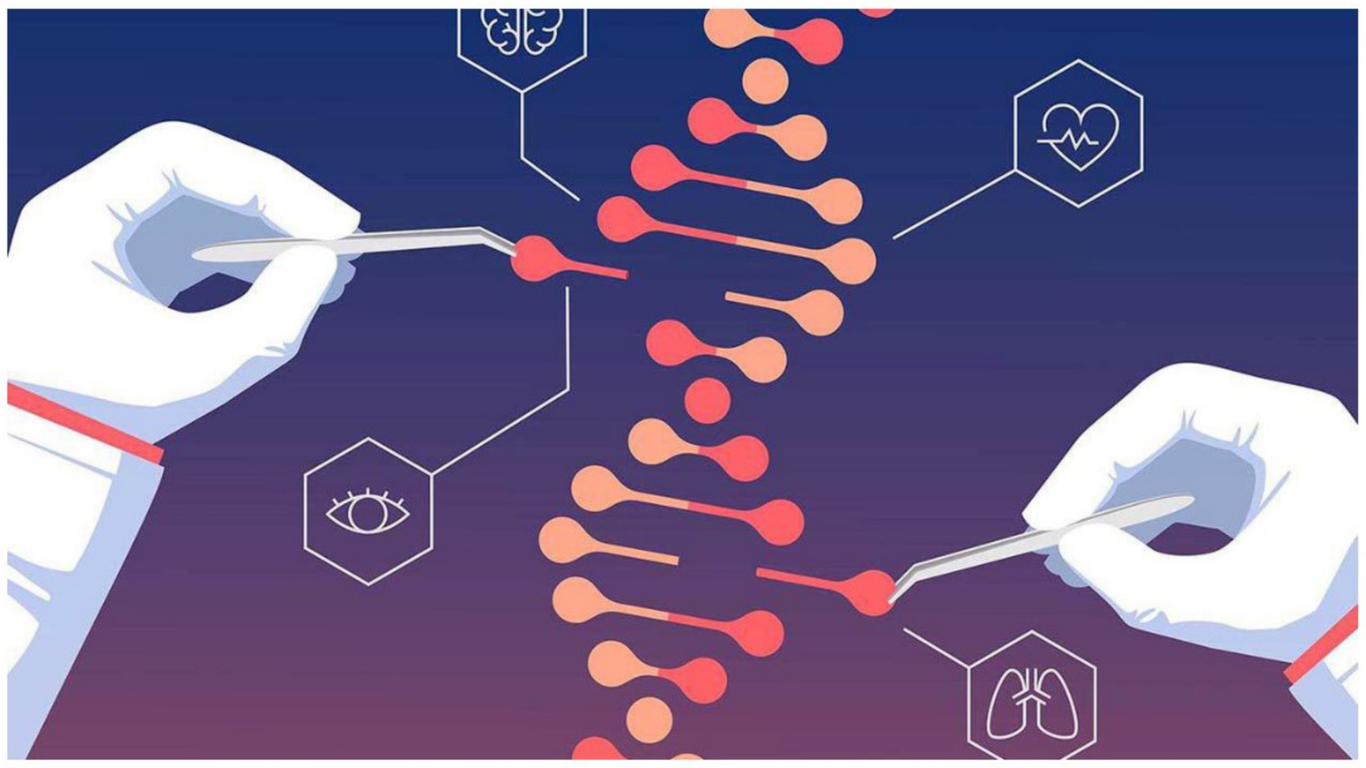
Jumping genes and RNA bridges promise to shake up biomedicine

The discovery of transposons revolutionised our understanding of genetics, in particular their role in enabling nature's wondrous diversity. Over the years, researchers have attempted to resurrect inactive transposons in animal genomes, hoping the results will be useful for genetic corrections to cure diseases

Sridhar Sivasubbu
Vinod Scaria



Transposons influence the effects of genes and are thus called the tools of evolution. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

THE GIST

Transposons influence the effects of genes by turning 'on' or 'off' their expression. They have the ability to rearrange the genome and thus enable nature's diversity

Researchers have reconstructed a transposon called 'sleeping beauty' using the genomes of a fish. It had been dormant for millions of years. A similar synthetic transposon may, in the future, allow us to turn off a problem gene or over-express another

A new RNA-guided gene editing system that uses bacterial transposons can treat a wide variety of genetic diseases: a functional copy of a gene can be replaced in a given genomic location. It may also be able to treat chromosomal inversions or deletions

The year was 1948. It had only been about half a century since scientists had rediscovered Gregor Mendel's work on inheritance in pea plants. This year, a scientist working on the genetics of the maize plant would challenge the then prevailing concept that genes are stable and arranged in an orderly manner on the chromosome. Barbara McClintock at the Carnegie Institution found that some genes were able to move around within the genome. These genes were called mobile elements or transposons.

Prof. McClintock also made another significant observation: depending on where the mobile elements were inserted, they had the ability to reversibly alter gene expression. She used corn kernels' colours as a surrogate to understand hereditary characteristics, and in this way figured out transposons moved about in the genome of the maize plant. She was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1983 for this work.

Between 1948 and 1983, researchers found transposons in an array of life-forms, including bacteriophages, bacteria, plants, worms, fruit flies, mosquitos, mice, and humans. They were nicknamed 'jumping genes'.

'Sleeping beauty' transposon

The discovery of transposons revolutionised our understanding of genetics, in particular their role in enabling nature's wondrous diversity. Transposons influence the effects of genes by turning "on" or "off" their expression using a variety of epigenetic mechanisms. They are thus rightly called the tools of evolution, for their ability to rearrange the genome and introduce changes.

More than 45% of the human genome consists of transposable elements. Just as they create diversity, they also create mutations in genes and lead to diseases. However, most of the transposons have themselves inherited mutations and have become inactive, and thus can't move around within the gnome.

Over the years, researchers have attempted to resurrect inactive transposons from the genomes of the animal kingdom, hoping that the results will be useful in biomedical applications like genetic correction to cure a disease or for gene therapy.

For example, in 1997, researchers studied the genomes of fish and reconstructed a transposon called "sleeping beauty" at the molecular level. This transposon became dormant in vertebrates millions of years ago. The researchers elegantly reprogrammed the synthetic avatar to work in human cells. In future, a similar synthetic transposon inspired by nature may be able to turn off a problem gene or over-express another to accentuate some desirable characteristic.

Researchers have already discovered several naturally occurring vertebrate transposons and continue to look for more.

RNA-guided transposons

On June 26, *Nature* published a paper by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Arc Institute in the U.S. describing a new RNA-guided gene editing system. This tool builds on an older discovery: that one of the genes in the IS110 family of bacterial transposons contains the instructions for cells to make an RNA molecule with two loops.

Scientists found this RNA could bind to two pieces of DNA, rather than the usual one piece, and form a bridge between them. This is a very useful ability.

In the new study, the researchers used the bridge RNA to edit the DNA. The two loops of the RNA can independently bind to two separate pieces of DNA. One of the loops identifies the target site in the genome that needs to be altered. The other loop specifies the DNA to be inserted in its place. Each loop is independently programmable, which means researchers can mix and match any target and donor DNA sequences of interest.

> Barbara McClintock at the Carnegie Institution found that some genes were able to move around within the genome. These genes were called mobile elements or transposons

In their paper, they reported that in *Escherichia coli* bacteria, the bridge RNA had more than 60% insertion efficiency (i.e. ability to introduce a desired gene) and a 94% specificity (ability to target the intended location on the genome).

Boon for synthetic biology

In a separate paper published on the same day, researchers from the University of Tokyo described the structural and molecular mechanisms of genome modification guided by bridge RNA. The researchers used cryo-electron microscopy to study the IS110 transposons. They found that it works as a dimer – a complex compound formed by bonding two copies of a simpler compound. One copy binds to the target DNA and the other binds to the donor DNA, bridged by the bridge RNA.

This alternative form of genome-editing has many advantages. CRISPR-mediated editing sometimes leaves small bits of nucleotides added/deleted during the repair process. DNA recombination mediated by bridge RNA on the other hand makes a clean cut, making the edit specific and tidy. Equally importantly, the latter can facilitate the addition, deletion or inversion of DNA sequences of virtually any length. Researchers can exploit this feature by inserting any desirable genetic cargo – such as a functional copy of a faulty, disease-causing gene – into any location on a genome.

Such an ability spells a big boon for synthetic biology, where entire sets of genes need to be inserted or removed from organisms. Similarly, the technique can be used to manage, or even treat, a wide variety of genetic diseases: a functional copy of a gene can be replaced in a given genomic location. Researchers may also be able to treat chromosomal inversions or deletions, which are currently beyond the reach of any of the editing tools we have.

As Prof. McClintock said in her Nobel Prize lecture in 1983: "Unquestionably we will emerge from this revolutionary period with modified views of components of cells and how they operate, but only, however, to await the emergence of the next revolutionary phase that again will bring startling changes in concepts."

(Sridhar Sivasubbu and Vinod Scaria are senior consultants at the Vishwanath Cancer Care Foundation and adjunct professors at IIT, Kanpur and the Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Center, Pune.)

BIG SHOT

An airport in Sicily was closed briefly on Friday after Mt. Etna, the largest active volcano in Europe, erupted and spewed ash into the sky, disrupting air travel. Mt. Etna, a soaring 3.3-km-high volcano, has erupted multiple times in recent decades. Italian authorities also issued a warning for Stromboli, another volcano north of Sicily, whose eruption created ash clouds. Mt. Stromboli is known for being one of the only nearly constantly active volcanoes in the world. AFP & REUTERS

WHAT IS IT?

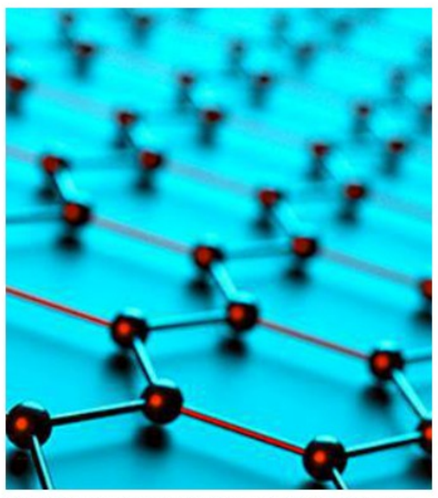
Graphene: a simple wonder

Karthik Vinod

When the same element is able to exist in different forms, the forms are called allotropes. Graphene, thus, is an allotrope of carbon, along with diamond and graphite. It consists of a single layer of carbon atoms that are linked to each other in a honeycomb pattern. Graphene is among the most versatile materials known to humankind. As a nanomaterial, it is stronger than diamond, more conductive than silver, more elastic than rubber, and lighter than aluminium. Many people called it a "wonder material".

It is simple to make graphene: use scotch tape to peel away the lead of a pencil for a while. Under a microscope, you should be able to see graphene residue left on the tape.

However, scientists use more sophisticated techniques in laboratories, like chemical vapour deposition, to deposit graphene in order to make stronger car tires or when making chips to replace those made of silicon in smartphones. When graphene is mixed with concrete, the latter becomes 25% stronger and less carbon-intensive. Graphene also develops some unusual properties in a twisted bilayer form. In 2019, for example, physicists found that when one sheet of graphene is placed above another and rotated by 1.1 degrees relative to the bottom layer, the stack becomes a superconductor at low temperature.



Graphene is among the most versatile materials known to humankind. As a nanomaterial, it is stronger than diamond, more conductive than silver, more elastic than rubber, and lighter than aluminium. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

(Karthik Vinod is interning with The Hindu.*)*

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

New office-bearers of Press Club

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

R. Sridhar was re-elected as the President of the Press Club of Bangalore on Sunday. The other office-bearers elected include B.N. Mohan Kumar (Vice President), Shivakumar M.D. (General Secretary), Manjunath G Y (Secretary), Dharanesh B.N. (Joint Secretary) and Ganesh G. (Treasurer). In the reserved seat for women in the executive committee, Mini Tejaswi was elected.

Timings
BENGALURU

MONDAY, JUL. 08	
RISE 05:59	SET 18:50
RISE 07:56	SET 20:58
TUESDAY, JUL. 09	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 08:47	SET 21:38
WEDNESDAY, JUL. 10	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 09:35	SET 22:13

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	25
Mysuru	29	21
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C Day will be comfortable with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain or thundershower is a chance.

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THE HINDU
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Mother, son receive degrees on the same stage at IIIT-Bangalore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The mother-son duo of Ranjani M.V. and Raghav S.N. at the IIIT-B convocation in Bengaluru on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The mother-son duo of Ranjani M.V., 48, and Raghav S.N., 22, received their PhD and Master's degrees on the same stage at the International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore's (IIIT-B) 24th convocation held on Sunday, where 343 students graduated.

The graduates included 121 from the Integrated M. Tech programme, 174 from the M. Tech programme, 14 from the Master of Science in Digital Society programme, 23 from the Master of Science by Research programme and 11 Ph.D scholars.

Ranjini M.V. was a full-time PhD student at IIIT B with a specialisation in classification algorithms in computer science. Her son Raghava S. N. was an integrated master's student studying electronics and communications.

Ms. Ranjini joined IIIT-Bangalore first, and later her son took his 12th exams and was planning to get into NIT Surathkal but later took an admission at IIIT-B. They have also worked together on a few assignments.

Mr. Raghav said, "I did help her with some coding-related work because that was a part of my undergraduate studies." Mr. Raghav never had to look outside the house for any inspiration. He said his mother is always a great role model to live up to. "The way she dealt with everything and took care of us while excelling in her PhD is commendable and gives us a lot of inspiration to do good things in life," he said.

Ms Ranjini graduated from BMS College of Engineering and was on a long 13-year break from her career to take care of her kids. After the break, she did a Master's and taught at PES University, Computer Science Department. She then joined IIIT-B. "With achieving great heights, there's a need to have people you can celebrate with. To achieve success in life, family support is the most important," Ms. Ranjini said.

IIIT-B to start a new campus in the city, launch B.Tech programme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIIT-B) has announced ambitious expansion plans, including starting a new campus and launching a B. Tech programme, aligning with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

During the 24th convocation ceremony, Prof. Debabrata Das, Director of IIIT-B, revealed the institute's plans for the IIIT-B East campus, slated to open in the next two years on the outskirts of Electronics City Phase II.

"IIIT-B's expansion seeks to broaden its academic offerings, infrastructure, and research capabilities in line with NEP 2020," said Prof. Das. With AICTE's approval, the institute will launch its inaugural B. Tech programme this academic year, specializing in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Computer Science and Engineering, and Electronics and Communication Engineering.

Highlighting a significant innovation, Prof. Das introduced the Gooru Navigator, a groundbreaking GPS for learning developed by researchers at IIIT-B's Gooru Labs. This tool personalises learning by mapping each learner's knowledge, interests, and mindsets, thereby enhancing educational outcomes and guiding users toward their goals. The Gooru Navigator leverages AI to update profiles, curate resources, and recommend activities, combining human wisdom with advanced technology.

IIIT-B's new B. Tech programme, designed for students who have completed their twelfth-grade education, promises to equip graduates with critical skills for the future. "Launching a B.Tech program aligns with our mission to provide cutting-edge education in emerging technologies," said Prof. Chandrashekar Ramanathan, Dean (Academics), IIIT-Bangalore.

SpiceJet flight from Bengaluru to Kolkata delayed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after a SpiceJet flight from New Delhi to Bengaluru was delayed for nearly 12 hours on Sunday another flight on the Bengaluru to Kolkata route reported a delayed from the Kempegowda International Airport leaving several passengers stranded. SpiceJet flight SG 8531 from Bengaluru to Kolkata which was scheduled to depart at 10.50 a.m. was delayed for several hours leading to heated arguments between the passengers and airline staff.

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Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Department of Health and Family Welfare

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Shri. D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Karnataka

Dengue Prevention is a collective responsibility!

"Don't ignore the symptoms.
Visit government health facilities for
FREE TESTING AND TREATMENT."

Symptoms of Dengue

Sudden onset of fever

Severe Headache

Pain behind the eye-balls

Muscle & Joint Pain

Bleeding gums & nose

Rashes on the skin

Treatment & follow-up

- When Dengue symptoms appear, visit the nearest Healthcare Facility. Avoid self-medication.
- Consume adequate oral fluids including ORS, Tender coconut , Lemon Juice to keep yourself well hydrated & take sufficient rest.
- If symptoms like vomiting, pain abdomen, decreased urine output, severe apathy, drowsiness, irritability, pale cold & clammy skin appear, even after fever subsides, visit the doctor immediately.
- Consume light food & sleep under mosquito net even during day time.

Preventive Measures

Keep water-holding containers like cement tanks, drums, barrels, buckets closed.
Avoid rain water collection in solid waste materials & dispose them regularly

Hon'ble Health Minister Shri Dinesh Gundurao participating in the dengue larvae source reduction activity.

Self-Protection measures

Use mosquito nets

Use mosquito repellents

Wear long-sleeved clothes

Fixing mesh to doors & windows

"To protect and respect our vibrant culture and tradition," is a Fundamental Duty of every citizen. This is affirmed by our constitution | Published by the Department of Health and Family Welfare | Your Health, Our Responsibility

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The groundwater lost in north India from 2002 to 2021

450 cubic kilometres. Further, using on-site observations, satellite data and models, it was found that across north India, rainfall in the monsoon season has reduced by 8.5% during 1951-2021. PTI

FPI investments in equities in the first week of July

7,900 in ₹ crore. Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) infused the amount in Indian equities amid a healthy economic and earnings growth momentum. PTI

The increase in India's coal imports from April to May

5.3 in per cent. India's coal imports rose to 52.29 million tonnes (MT) in the first two months of the ongoing fiscal as against the year-ago period. The country's coal import was 49.62 MT in April and May in FY24. PTI

The share of Indians to read ingredient lists: Farmley

73 in per cent. Based on a survey of over 6,000 people across India, the Healthy Snacking Report 2024 by Farmley aims to examine the ever evolving consumption trends in India. PTI

Sri Lankan schools to which India donated digital equipment

200 India donated digital equipment, including 2,000 tabs, worth ₹300 million for use by schools in the southern province of Sri Lanka. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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On expunction powers in Parliament

Why did the Opposition engage in a war of words with the government over expunging certain remarks? What is the process to expunge remarks in Parliament? Can a member of the Lok Sabha direct a remark against a Minister? What do the various rules state?

EXPLAINER

Sumeda

The story so far:
The first special session of the 18th Lok Sabha witnessed heated discussions, with the Opposition clashing with the government over a range of issues, ultimately concluding with a war of words over the expunction of the remarks of the leaders of Opposition in both Houses. Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar removed portions of Leader of Opposition (LoP) Mallikarjun Kharge's speech, which was critical of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Meanwhile, in the Lower House, parts of Rahul Gandhi's remarks on the PM and the BJP were expunged from the records on the orders of Speaker Om Birla, sparking allegations of different yardsticks being applied for different MPs.

When are remarks expunged?
Parliament maintains a verbatim record of everything that is spoken and takes place during proceedings. While Article 105 of the Constitution confers certain privileges and freedom of speech in Parliament on MPs, it is subject to other provisions of the Constitution and the rules of the House. On the orders of the presiding officer, that is, the Chairman in the Upper House and the Speaker in the Lower House, words, phrases and expressions which are deemed "defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified" are deleted or expunged from records. For this purpose, the Lok Sabha Secretariat maintains a comprehensive list of 'unparliamentary' words and expressions.

The rules of parliamentary etiquette, which are laid out to ensure discipline and decorum in the Rajya Sabha, say, "When the Chair holds that a particular word or expression is unparliamentary, it should be immediately withdrawn without any attempt to raise any debate

War of words: Leader Of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge speaks in the House. ANI

over it. Words or expressions held to be unparliamentary and ordered to be expunged by the Chair are omitted from the printed debates."

There have been recorded instances where the scope of expunction has been broadened. Speakers, at their discretion, have ordered the expunction of words deemed prejudicial to national interest or detrimental to maintaining friendly relations with a foreign State, derogatory to dignitaries, likely to offend national sentiments or affect the religious susceptibilities of a section of community, likely to discredit the Army, not in good taste or otherwise objectionable or likely to bring the House into ridicule or lower the dignity of the Chair, the House or the members, authors M. N. Kaul and S. L. Shakdher note in their book *Practice and Procedure of Parliament*. For instance, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru once objected when a member referred to the President of Pakistan while asking a supplementary question about the international situation. Mr. Nehru said it would "not be proper" for the Head of a foreign state to be mentioned in the language the member had used. The objectionable words were then expunged.

Members must withdraw objectionable remarks deemed irrelevant to the debate upon the Chair's request and failure to comply may lead to expunction. Similarly, quoting from an unreferenced document or speaking after being asked to desist can result in an expunction.

What about remarks against an MP?
If an MP makes an allegation against their colleague or an outsider, Rule 353 of the Lok Sabha outlines the procedural framework to be followed. "The Rule does not prohibit the making of any allegation. The only requirement is advance notice, on receipt of which the Minister concerned will conduct an inquiry into the allegation and come up with the facts when the MP makes the allegation in the House," former Lok Sabha Secretary General P.D.T. Achary says. If the allegation is neither defamatory nor incriminatory, the above rule would not apply, he adds.

"The rule does not obviously apply to an allegation against a Minister in the government. Since the Council of Ministers is accountable to Parliament, the Members of the House have the right to question Ministers and make imputations against their conduct as Ministers," Mr. Achary adds.

How do officers expunge remarks?
The Chairman and Speaker are vested with the power to order the expunction of remarks under Rule 261, and Rule 380 and 381 of the Rules of Procedure of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, respectively.

Rule 261 states, "If the Chairman is of opinion that a word or words have or have been used in debate which is or are defamatory or indecent or unparliamentary or undignified, he may in his discretion, order that such word or words be expunged from the proceedings of the Council." The Lower House has a similar provision.

The expunged portions are marked by asterisks with an explanatory footnote stating 'expunged as ordered by the Chair.' If the Chair directs that nothing will go on record during a member's speech or interruption, footnote 'not recorded' is inserted. A comprehensive list of words and phrases is circulated to media outlets at the end of the day's proceedings. Once expunged, these words or phrases cease to exist on the official record. However, the relevance of the practice of expunging remarks has lately come into question, in a digital age where expunged content remains accessible due to the live telecast of proceedings and wider circulation of screenshots and videos on social media.

THE GIST

- Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar removed portions of Mallikarjun Kharge's speech, which was critical of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the RSS. Meanwhile, in the Lower House, parts of Rahul Gandhi's remarks on the PM and the BJP were expunged from the records on the orders of Speaker Om Birla.
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- However, the relevance of the practice of expunging remarks has lately come into question, in a digital age where expunged content remains accessible due to the live telecast of proceedings and wider circulation of screenshots and videos on social media.

On Kerala's four-year undergraduate programme

What is the intention behind the FYUGP? Can a student leave the programme after three years? What are some of the concerns raised by academics and activists?

G. Krishnakumar

The story so far:
On July 1, institutions of higher education in Kerala rolled out the Four-Year Undergraduate Programmes (FYUGP). Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched the academic reform that "intends to provide opportunities that can enable students to acquire competence in using digital technologies, computational methods, data analytics, and other skills essential to participate in the knowledge economy".

What is the FYUGP?
The FYUGP began with the formulation of the Kerala State Higher Education Curriculum Framework by the Kerala State Curriculum Committee headed by Suresh Das, former executive vice president of the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment. The programme has been introduced in affiliated colleges of the Kerala, Calicut, Kannur and Mahatma Gandhi Universities for the 2024-25 academic year. These five-year integrated programmes directly run by the Cochin University of Science and Technology and Mahatma Gandhi University have also been restructured to provide a four-year exit option. Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, and Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Tirur, are also offering these programmes.

What are its key features?
The Kerala State Higher Education Curriculum Framework for FYUGP is formulated with a student-centric approach and provides maximum flexibility in terms of choice of disciplines of study. It also allows a student to move from one discipline of study to another, according to the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC). Students will have the chance to determine their semester-wise academic load, and be allowed to learn at their pace, to the extent possible.

The framework also offers flexibility for students to move from one institution to another as per their choice. It also offers flexibility to switch to alternative modes of learning (offline, distance learning, online and hybrid).

What are the pathway options?
The programme offers three pathway options. For the three-year undergraduate degree, students who wish to exit after three years will be awarded an undergraduate degree in the major discipline after securing a specific number of credits (133 or above) and satisfying minimum course requirements.

A four-year undergraduate honours degree in the major discipline will be awarded to those who complete a four-year degree programme with the specific number of credits (177 or above) and after satisfying minimum course requirements.

Additionally, students who are highly motivated to opt for research as their career can choose honours with research stream in their fourth year. They should do a research project or dissertation under the guidance of a faculty member of the university/college. Students who secure 177 credits, including 12 credits from a research project/dissertation, are awarded the undergraduate degree (Honours with Research).

What are the concerns?
The core objective of the undergraduate curriculum stemmed from the government's intent to build a strong knowledge society that can help develop and sustain a knowledge economy. The Department of Higher Education hopes that the reform will equip students with the knowledge base and intellectual abilities that will make them effective citizens in a knowledge society and offer them multiple employment options.

However, a group of academic experts and cultural activists, have issued a joint statement against the 'unilateral' roll-out of the FYUGP, warning that that the reform could "dismantle" the existing structure of arts and science courses including BA, BSc and BCom that have been in existence for several decades. They also alleged that it lacked in-depth study in any subject. A section of teachers have also pointed out the gaps in infrastructure in campuses and the lack of adequate training for teachers on various aspects related to the programme's implementation.

THE GIST

- On July 1, institutions of higher education in Kerala rolled out the Four-Year Undergraduate Programmes.
- The core objective of the undergraduate curriculum stemmed from the government's intent to build a strong knowledge society that can help develop and sustain a knowledge economy.
- However, a group of academic experts and cultural activists, have issued a joint statement against the 'unilateral' roll-out of the FYUGP, warning that that the reform could "dismantle" the existing structure of arts and science courses.

EDUCATIONPLUS

Selvam Jesiah

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Self-directed learning (SDL), also known as 'active learning' or 'deep learning', is a learning methodology where learners take primary responsibility for planning, implementing, and evaluating the effort. Even though SDL supports one's continuous growth and development, it is largely misconceived, and badly administered by academia and students resulting in the latter not taking the fullest advantage of selecting, managing, and assessing their learning activities.

The Indian education system is largely obsessed with regular classes stuffed with more lectures and fewer practice sessions resulting in no room for students to reflect and handle things independently. There is no doubt that regular lectures help learners to become informed and knowledgeable but learning without deep understanding and self-construction of ideas may go in vain. Regular lectures are a teacher-centric approach leading to spoon-feeding that, in the long run, teaches the student nothing.

What is SDL?

The best educators design and develop their courses and methods to effectively prepare students for future careers, often by using various active and proactive learning techniques. SDL is one active learning technique that shows great promise in preparing students for their lives and careers. Further, students develop new insights by interacting with and transmuting received information to own it and make it personally meaningful. While designing and developing the curriculum, educators must allocate a significant number of credits to SDL in addition to lectures and practicals. The course plan should depict the units and topics where and when SDL methodology may be used.

Educational research has shown that SDL is positively associated with academic efficiency, performance, and productivity and, above all, will significantly contribute to learners' curiosity, creativity, independent learning, intrinsic motivation, and life satisfaction. Research also shows that curiosity, creativity, and intrinsic motivation have a positive effect on creative and innovative performance. That's because when students are innately motivated, they feel a sense of ownership over their assigned tasks and learning.

SDL also contributes immensely to the readiness of students for their jobs and careers, irrespective of their education. It is highly emphasised even in medical education, primarily to produce learners who can manage their learning in their careers. There is an increase in the adoption of problem-based learning (PBL) that underscores SDL. It is because health professionals need to be self-directed to enhance goal orientation, motivation, self-discipline in practice, independence, timeliness, and continual methodical learning owing to the knowledge explosion, medical advancement and new procedures.

There is a lack of understanding as to how SDL can be used. Many think that SDL should be initiated by teachers while others assume that students should take complete ownership of the learning process. SDL becomes more effective when teachers and students are together involved in achieving the expected level of learning.

How to use it

Teachers should be facilitators where they explain a topic and promote collaborative sessions in class by asking questions, and students should read intensively to bridge the knowledge gap identified. This may induce the student to study beyond class hours to complete the task or solve the given problem. Teachers should create curiosity among students by sustaining interest in topics, explaining the importance of solutions, and adequately questioning them during discussion hours. This is how learning may be stretched outside classrooms and can be converted from teacher-centric to learner-centric, where students make use of the outside classroom hours for their learning.

What deters SDL is that students are assessment-oriented. Unless SDL is subject to assessment, the student shows no interest. Hence, the formative assessment, which is part of the overall assessment, needs to consider the performance of students in assignments and tasks given under SDL.

SDL is a powerful approach to nurture growth and life-long learning in a rapidly changing world but it is neither widespread nor popular in the Indian education system. It is time that academia, both school and higher education, adopts SDL as the major methodology, and provides an environment coupled with adequate orientation to both teachers and students. The existing teaching-and-learning practices may need to be re-examined and re-tailored. Faculty development and student orientation play important roles in implementing such changes. Are we ready for embrace it for the real benefit of education?

The writer is Professor and Principal, Faculty of Management Sciences, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University), Chennai.

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What is the Internet Archive and why is it facing backlash from book publishers?

Why are traditional publishers such as Hachette, HarperCollins, Wiley, and Penguin Random House suing Internet Archive? How does the Archive save and store web pages? How has removing books from the Archive affected students?

Sahana Venugopal

The story so far:

Internet Archive (IA), a non-profit that aims to digitise, preserve, lend, and share multi-media content, is embroiled in a major legal challenge as it faces off against traditional publishers accusing it of copyright violations. The free digital library is fighting the forced removal of around half a million books from its platform, which it argues functions like a library.

What is the case against Internet Archive?

While a great number of books digitised and uploaded by Internet Archive were already in the public domain – such as historical sources, old classics, etc. – many traditional publishers have alleged that Internet Archive violated their copyrights and illegally made their books available to the public, by scanning physical copies and distributing the digital files.

In the case *Hachette vs Internet Archive* that began in 2020, traditional publishers Hachette, HarperCollins, Wiley, and Penguin Random House sued Internet Archive. On March 24 last year, District Judge John G. Koeltl issued an order in favour of the publishers. "IA's Website includes millions of public domain ebooks that users can download for free and read without restrictions," noted the order, adding, "Relevant to this action, however, the Website also includes 3.6 million books protected by valid copyrights, including 33,000 of the Publishers' titles and all of the Works in Suit." In particular, traditional publishers were against IA's temporary 'National Emergency Library' (NEL) initiative that it launched during the COVID-19 pandemic. This was to allow more users to access the e-books in its collection while physical libraries were locked down. "During the NEL, IA lifted the technical controls enforcing its one-to-one owned-to-loaned ratio and allowed up to ten thousand patrons at a time to borrow each e-book on the Website," stated the 2023 order.

In general, IA uses a system known as "controlled digital lending" to limit the number of people who can access an e-book. It ended its emergency library system after being hit with the lawsuit. Internet Archive used the doctrine of fair use to defend itself in the case, but this did not hold up. The organisation said it would appeal, but did so after some delay.

The case is ongoing, with the oral argument stage of the appeal taking place on June 28.

Why are books being removed?

As a result of the lawsuit, IA was forced to remove over half a million books from its database, with the Director of Library Services at Internet Archive, Chris Freeland, calling out the "profoundly negative impact" on users.

According to testimonies collected by IA, the mass removal hurt students who could not access books for academic research. While IA identifies itself as a library, it has been compared to a shadow library or a piracy database by traditional publishers, who disagree with its "controlled digital lending" approach. Despite the removal, however, Internet Archive is still home to a rich collection.

As of late June, the web archive said it contained 835 billion web pages, 44 million books and texts, 15 million audio recordings, 10.6 million videos, 4.8 million images, and 1 million software programs. Live concerts and television programs also make up part of this collection.

What is Wayback Machine?

While Internet Archive buys physical books, digitises them, lends them to users, or makes them available for download, it has since 1996 also focused on preserving web pages. The platform claims users can explore over 866 billion saved web pages through its own search service.

"We began in 1996 by archiving the Internet itself, a medium that was just beginning to grow in use. Like newspapers, the content published on the web was ephemeral – but unlike newspapers, no one was saving it. Today we have 28+ years of web history accessible through the Wayback Machine and we work with 1,200+ library and other partners through our Archive-It program to identify important web pages," noted Internet Archive on its website. Users can help IA archive parts of the internet at no cost, or they can reach out to the platform to make their own work publicly available.

How can one use Wayback Machine?

Using Wayback Machine is easy and free of cost, though results are not always guaranteed.

To begin, navigate to the Wayback Machine web page, where you will see a bar in which you can enter a URL/keywords relevant to the web page or content you are looking for.

Then, hit 'enter' and wait for the results to be shown. If the content was new, rarely viewed, or deleted a very long time ago before being captured for the archive, you may not get many results or any at all.

However, you have a good chance of finding content such as old websites that no longer exist today, earlier versions of existing websites, deleted social media posts, archived versions of paywalled articles, and archived versions of content that is blocked or censored in your jurisdiction.

A graphic will show you how many times Internet Archive "crawled" the content in the past months or even years, allowing you to click on the calendar bubbles to pick out "snapshots" of the web content from different periods of time.

However, the service can be patchy at times and not all content might have been perfectly saved; broken links, missing media, or pages that won't load are often the end result.

While Wayback Machine is useful for personal research or to access information sources, users should be cautious about relying on the data obtained through such sources, as the saved information can sometimes be outdated or inaccurate.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Indian cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni was born on July 7, 1981. A quiz on the legend

Vembu Shankar

QUESTION 1
In which city was M. S. Dhoni born?

QUESTION 2
Which division of the south east Railways was M. S. Dhoni initially stationed as a ticket collector?

QUESTION 3
M. S. Dhoni has taken only one wicket in his international career. Who was the batter whom Dhoni got out bowled?

QUESTION 4
Which battalion of the Parachute Regiment is Lt Col (Honorary) M. S. Dhoni assigned with?

QUESTION 5
Apart from M. S. Dhoni, who is the cricketer who appears as himself in the biopic *M. S. Dhoni: The Untold Story* playing the character of a national selector?

QUESTION 6
The wedding of M.S. Dhoni and Sakshi Rawat was held at Vishranti Resorts in 2010. The resort is owned by which former Ranji Trophy player?

QUESTION 7
What name did M.S. Dhoni sport in his jersey while appearing for the India vs New Zealand match at Visakhapatnam, on October 29, 2016?

QUESTION 8
Which Indian cricketer made his debut alongside M.S. Dhoni playing against Bangladesh at Chattogram on December 23, 2004?

QUESTION 9
What is M. S. Dhoni's test cap number?

Visual question:
Apart from Chennai Super Kings, M. S. Dhoni has captained this team as well in the Indian Premier League. Name it. AFP

Questions and Answers to the July 5 edition of the daily quiz: 1. This book written in Latin by a science genius was authorised by the noted diarist Samuel Pepys. **Ans: Sir Isaac Newton's *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica***
2. This country in North Africa got its independence from Spain on July 5 in 1962. **Ans: Algeria**
3. This legendary crooner's debut single was recorded on July 5, 1954. **Ans: Elvis Presley**
4. This person made history by winning the Gentleman's Singles title at Wimbledon 49 years ago. **Ans: Arthur Ashe dethroned Jimmy Connors to become the first black man to win the coveted title**
5. Dolly, the first mammal to be cloned, was this kind of animal. **Ans: Sheep**
6. Name the online giant founded on July 5. **Ans: Amazon**
Visual: This is the currency of this South American country. **Ans: Venezuela**
Early Birds: Varghese Joseph| Jyot Prakash| Akshansh Thakur| Aaryaman Thakur| Sunil Kannada
The writer is an Indian Army veteran.

KNOW YOUR ENGLISH

Its the start of a burgeoning romance

She has ants in her pants as she has been waiting for a call from the university

S. Upendran

What is the meaning of 'have ants in one's pants'? (Anu Mittal, Gurugram)
This is an expression frequently used in American English in informal contexts. When you say that you have 'ants in your pants', what you mean is that you are so excited or anxious about something, that you are unable to sit still even for a little while. Even when you stand, you are full of nervous energy; as a result, you pace up and down. Whether you are standing or sitting, you are unable to stay still. You are restless and constantly fidgeting. All this makes sense, I suppose. After all, if you had a lot of ants crawling up your pants, you wouldn't be sitting or standing still, would you? Being very anxious about the prospect of being bitten in the wrong places, you might contemplate removing your clothing and doing everything possible to get rid of the insects. The expression is frequently used with children who have energy to spare!

Please take the dog for a walk. She's had ants in her pants all day.

Tomorrow is Deepak's birthday. It's not surprising he has ants in his pants.

What does 'burgeon' mean? How is the word pronounced? (R Viswanath, Chennai)
First, let us deal with the pronunciation of the word. It consists of two syllables; the 'bur' in the first, rhymes with the words 'fur', 'her' and 'sir'. The 'g' that follows sounds like the 'j' in 'juice', 'jam' and 'jump', and the final 'eo' is like the 'a' in 'china'. The word, which comes from the Old French 'barjoner' meaning 'to bud or sprout', is pronounced 'BUR-jen' with the stress on the first syllable. Dictionaries often label the word 'literary', and today, it is mostly used to mean 'to grow or increase rapidly'. Anything that burgeons, expands and flourishes. The word can be used with living and non-living things.

After a rough start to the profession, Atul burgeoned into an excellent teacher.

It was obvious to all that love was burgeoning between the two classmates.

Which is correct? Pay in cash or pay by cash? (S. Mangalam, Vellore)
Although 'pay by cash' is sometimes heard nowadays, careful users of the language would say 'pay in cash'. They would consider 'pay by cash' incorrect. These individuals would prefer to say 'pay in cash' or 'pay cash'

I'd just paid cash for the groceries when the store alarm went off.

I don't know why, but Usha always prefers to pay in cash.

The expression 'pay by' is used when you make use of credit cards, cheques.

When Shiva bought an expensive car, he paid by cheque.

Nowadays, we talk about 'online payment' and 'paid online' – we do not say 'paid by online' or 'paid in online'.

upendrankye@gmail.com

Word of the day

Mogul:
a very wealthy or powerful businessman

Synonyms: king, baron, big businessman, top executive, tycoon, magnate

Usage: *The media mogul said he wanted to buy his company.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/mogulpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈməʊg(ə)l/, /ˈmoʊgəl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Widen your choices

Uncertain about your career options? Low on self-confidence? This column may help

OFF THE EDGE
Nandini Raman

I did Science in Class 12 (Biology stream) and B.A. English Literature. I don't know what to do next. Is an MBA a good option? Alphonse

Dear Alphonse,

An MBA will provide you with a solid foundation in business and management principles, and open doors to various career opportunities in the corporate sector, entrepreneurship, and other industries.

You could take on roles in marketing, finance, human resource management, operations management, international business, and entrepreneurship across corporate organisations, finance and banking sectors, marketing, advertising agencies, HR departments, and start-ups.

With an M.A. in English Literature, you could find jobs in teaching, publishing, journalism, content writing, copywriting, editing, and public relations.

An M.A. in Communication or Journalism can open doors in journalism, broadcasting, public relations, corporate communications, content creation, and media production.

An M.A. in Linguistics could lead you to teaching and academia, translation and interpretation, speech and language therapy, and research.

Consider your core strengths, passion, and career aspirations to choose a path that aligns with your long-term goals. A personality career profile will also help you identify your strengths.

I am a Humanities student. I want to do a Ph.D. but don't know what I want to specialise in. If I want to study abroad, especially in West Asia, what additional qualifications do I need? Aftab

Dear Aftab,

Pursuing a Ph.D. requires a clear understanding of your interests, strengths, and long-term career aspirations. Start by self-introspection and reflect on your strengths, and academic achievements to identify potential areas of specialisation.

Consult your professors and academic advisors to gain insights and advice on potential specialisations and research topics that best fit your interests.

Research universities and Ph.D. programmes in West Asia that best fit your academic and research interests. Most programmes abroad require a Master's degree in a related field. Depending on the country and university, you will need to prepare for the standardised language proficiency tests such as TOEFL, IELTS, or others if required.

Gain relevant experience by participating in research projects, internships, and academic conferences to strengthen your academic profile and research skills. Apply for scholarships, fellowships, and funding opportunities to finance your studies abroad.

You will need to prepare appropriate LORs and SOPs for your applications as well.

I am in the second year of B.Sc. Physics and want to do higher studies in Astronomy. Should I do an Master's programme or an internship after graduation? Also, are there internships related to Astronomy? Hana

Dear Hana,

Pursue an M.Sc. in Astronomy or a related field and gain practical experience through internships on the side if possible. The Master's will offer research opportunities, allowing you to work on projects, collaborate with faculty and open doors to various opportunities in research institutions, observatories, space agencies, universities, and educational institutions. It will also prepare you for advanced studies and research.

Look for research internships across observatories and research institutions like NASA, ESA, and ISRO, universities and educational institutions, planetariums and science centres or astronomy organisations and societies. As you do your Master's, you will also understand if you want to pursue a research-oriented career or a one in space science, astrophysics, education, or science communication.

Network and build relationships with professors, researchers, and professionals to gain insights, guidance, and opportunities for higher studies and internships.

I have finished B.Sc. Psychology and would like to do my Master's with a specialisation in Educational Psychology. What is the scope in India? Shamlee

Dear Shamlee,

Educational Psychology focuses on understanding how people learn and the educational processes that influence learning and development.

The scope is vast across educational institutions (schools and colleges, across special education, remediation), universities and research institutes, government and non-governmental organisations (to draft policies, programmes and initiatives), NGOs (educational and community programmes, counselling, advocacy, educational reforms), corporate sector (in training and development programmes for employees), healthcare and mental health organisations (across hospitals and clinics) and across private practice as a counsellor or a therapist.

The job opportunities include being a school psychologist, a college counsellor, an educational consultant, a training and development specialist, a researcher or an academician, a counsellor or a therapist and as a special educator or a remediation teacher.

Disclaimer: This column is merely a guiding voice and provides advice and suggestions on education and careers.

The writer is a practising counsellor and a trainer. Send your questions to eduplus.thehindu@gmail.com with the subject line Off the Edge

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675 (1st ATTEMPT 62, 2nd ATTEMPT 346) GOURAV P BHARADWAJ
656 470 VISHNU PRASAD S R
642 464 SHREYAS S MALI
638 447 BHIMASHANKAR
625 442 ANKUSH B M
623 488 SRUSHTI L HELAVAR
619 491 P AKASH REDDY
614 436 AASHRAYA P
614 406 SHREETHEJ S
605 391 K HITESH VAISHANAV
602 352 ANIRUDH N M
602 356 GAYATHRI M MOGER
601 425 KAVANA PATEL G B
600 459 KARIBASAPPA YALIGAR
600 430 SHARADHI B S
595 403 RINU JASMINE S
594 269 DHANUSHREE A G
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588 394 M G NANDAN PATIL
584 414 PRATHIBHA C R
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French expats cast vote

M. Dinesh Varma
PUDUCHERRY

The French diaspora in the city joined their mainland peers on Sunday to cast vote in the second and final round of a crucial and keenly-watched Parliamentary elections. The surprise polls were called after French President Emmanuel Macron decreed dissolution of the Parliament in the immediate wake of the European Parliament election results on June 9 that saw his Renaissance party-led centrist alliance suffer a drubbing at the hands of Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally. For the registered 4,546 French citizens on the electoral rolls in the region of Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala, the field for Sunday's run-off elections has narrowed down to two candidates---Franck Pajot of the Socialist Party and Anne Genetet from Mr. Macron's Ensemble centrist alliance.

Naidu, Revanth agree on transfer of five villages from A.P. to Telangana

The process of re-merger is likely to take some time as the two States need to follow the procedures for seeking an amendment to Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, by the Union government as the Act was passed by Parliament

M. Rajeev
HYDERABAD

The meeting of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and his Andhra Pradesh counterpart, N. Chandrababu Naidu, on Saturday, the first such after four-and-a-half years, saw some crucial decisions being taken.

The transfer of five gram panchayats around the temple town of Bhadrachalam from Andhra Pradesh to Telangana was one of the issues in focus ahead of the much-awaited meeting. The two Chief Ministers reportedly reached a consensus on the re-merger of the gram panchayats with Telangana to remove the difficulties faced by residents in accessing medical and other services.

Chief Ministers A. Revanth Reddy and N. Chandrababu Naidu during their meeting on Saturday. X/@REVANTH_ANUMULA

The two governments are planning to expeditiously initiate steps in this regard. The process, however, is likely to take some time as the two States need to follow procedures for seeking an amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, by the Union government as the Act was passed by Parliament.

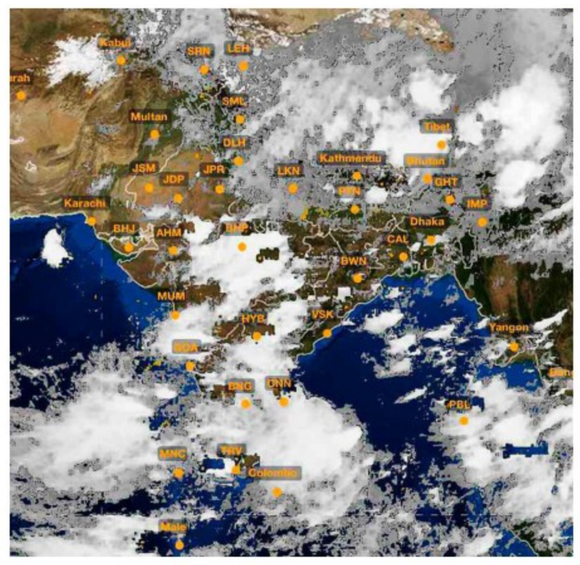
The gram panchayats of Etapaka, Gundala, Purushottapatnam, Kannaigudem and Pichukalapalem, along with seven mandals of Khammam district, were merged with Andhra Pradesh by the Modi government in its first term within days of the formation of Telangana. As a result, the endowment lands of Bhadrachalam temple located in these villages went to Andhra Pradesh, while the temple town remained in Telangana. Several representations were subsequently made for the re-merger of these villages with Telangana owing to the legal issues involved in the management of those temple lands.

This apart, people also face issues in accessing villages closer to Bhadrachalam, as they have to cross the Andhra Pradesh boundary and re-enter Telangana to reach them.

With consent obtained at the highest levels, officials of the two States have reportedly focussed on the legal formalities required to be completed in this regard. Since this would need an amendment to the legislation passed by Parliament, the Telangana government would need to pass a resolution in the Legislative Assembly seeking the neighbouring State's cooperation in transferring these five panchayats to Telangana. Once Andhra Pradesh gives its consent through a similar resolution, the issue would reach the Centre for amending the Reorganisation Act.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Monday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places over West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Goa, Maharashtra, and Telangana. Heavy rainfall at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.5	26.7	Kozhikode	13.0	32.1	23.8
Ahmedabad	—	35.4	28.0	Kurnool	—	34.0	26.3
Aizawl	0.2	32.4	24.3	Lucknow	75.0	31.1	25.0
Allahabad	2.0	37.4	26.5	Madurai	—	39.7	26.1
Bengaluru	3.3	28.8	21.2	Mangaluru	43.7	25.6	23.6
Bhopal	0.8	33.4	23.9	Mumbai	61.0	30.1	23.2
Bhubaneswar	52.6	34.0	25.8	Mysuru	—	29.0	—
Chandigarh	16.2	36.0	26.2	New Delhi	—	34.6	25.6
Chennai	—	36.4	27.6	Patna	40.0	32.0	25.6
Coimbatore	1.0	30.7	22.8	Port Blair	41.4	30.2	24.2
Dehradun	2.0	32.4	24.0	Puducherry	—	31.5	27.2
Gangtok	4.0	22.4	18.3	Pune	0.5	30.9	24.4
Goa	48.2	27.3	24.3	Raipur	—	32.1	25.5
Guwahati	0.2	35.0	27.0	Ranchi	—	31.7	24.0
Hubballi	—	26.0	23.0	Shillong	—	26.2	17.2
Hyderabad	3.7	31.5	23.2	Shimla	—	22.5	15.8
Imphal	9.0	27.1	23.1	Srinagar	—	29.4	17.7
Jaipur	—	35.2	27.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.7	24.8
Kochi	32.0	30.6	23.8	Tiruchi	—	35.9	27.4
Kohima	21.0	23.6	18.2	Vijayawada	21.0	31.0	25.4
Kolkata	0.4	33.7	27.7	Visakhapatnam	0.3	31.1	27.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	..31	.14	...140	...117	
Bengaluru	.17	..27	.91	.....—	87	
Chennai	...1	..15	.61	42	42	
Delhi	...4	..30	105	15	25	
Hyderabad	.11	..10	.26	93	82	
Kolkata	...6	..26	.20	27	53	
Lucknow	.13	..11	.20	30	73	
Mumbai	.25	6	...6	.....—	...387	
Pune	..—	..36	102	32	42	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..54	.28	59	98	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Malegaon, Maharashtra recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 298 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PRAWAH team visits Mahadayi project areas in Belagavi district

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

A team of officers from the Mahadayi Progressive River Authority for Water and Harmony (PRAWAH) visited Belagavi district on Sunday, as part of its tour of the three riparian States of the Mahadayi.

Members of PRAWAH team holding a meeting with Irrigation Department officials in Belagavi on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

They visited Chorla and Kanakumbi apart from the project sites of Kalasa and Banduri, and held a meeting with officials of Irrigation and other departments. PRAWAH charman P.M. Scott, members chief engineer Veerendra Sharma, hydrology engineer Manoj Tewari, and others like Milind Nayak and Subhash Chandra were present. Kannada organisations had objected to this visit and had urged the State government to stop it. They suspected that Goa could sabotage the visit and use it against Karnataka's interests. Their fears were based on some claims by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant that Goa would use the meeting as evidence against Karnataka in its legal fight against the Mahadayi project.

Dr. Sawant had accused Karnataka of irregularities and said that the PRAWAH team inspection would be used as evidence in court. The central committee of Kannada organisations had written a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah opposing the visit.

Irrigation Department sources, however, deny that there was any danger in the visit. "There was nothing in Sunday's visit that could point towards obstruction of the Mahadayi basin projects. It was a routine visit, that was unfortunately politicised by the Goa Chief Minister," a senior officer said.

The team will visit Bengaluru on Monday, where it will hold a meeting with officials of the Irrigation Department and others.

"There is nothing on the agenda about the Kalasa or Banduri nala projects. In fact, the full authority has not been constituted till now. Only official members are there. The three riparian States are supposed to nominate their representatives to the Authority. That has not been yet. Even the chairman is not a full-time member," an Irrigation Department officer said.

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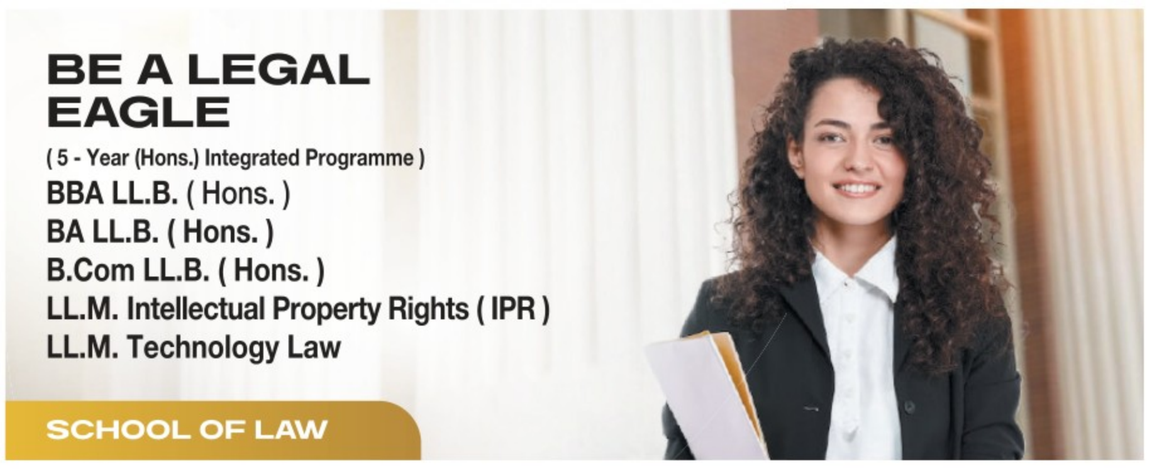

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A BG-BGE

From electricity to Electronics City: Tracing Bengaluru's journey to becoming the tech capital

The electrification that happened very early in the 1900s led to modern industries and subsequently a culture of innovation in the city

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

A view of Mahadevapura and the buildings off outer ring road, which has become a major information technology hub in recent years. K. MURALI KUMAR

It's no secret that several entrepreneurs who flocked to Bengaluru to set up their start-ups have struck gold. But did you know that Bengaluru's evolution as the start-up capital has a shiny little connection with the yellow metal, literally?

To be more precise, it all started at the Kolar Gold Fields, explains Vinay Parameswarappa, founder of Gully Tours.

"It's not something that happened overnight. Waves of innovation across time have led to this, and for Bengaluru, the beginning of the wave was gold found in Kolar."

Kolar Gold Fields was electrified in 1902 to aid the process of mining gold. Electricity was drawn by harnessing the Cauvery Falls at Shivanasamudra hydroelectric power station, Asia's largest.

This was followed by a proposal to divert the surplus power generated to electrify the city of Bengaluru.

Then Maharaja of Mysore Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV approved the proposal in 1904, and 104 streetlights came to life near K.R. Market in August 1905, followed by more. Bengaluru thus became one of the first cities in Asia to be electrified.

The electrification that happened very early on led to modern industries and a culture of innovation in the city, says Parameswarappa.

"We had people like Sir M. Visvesvaraya who said, 'Industrialise or perish.' From the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Plant to the Paper Mills to Mysore Sandal Soap, a variety of industries cropped up in the region."

Talking to the enthusiastic crowd gathered to participate in Gully Tours' first Bengaluru start-up trail for the public, Parameswarappa shed light on the myriad chapters of history that culminated in the city becoming the Silicon Valley of India. The trail was led by Raksha Shenoy and Parameswarappa.

The PSUs and IT boom

The next wave happened post-independence. And this was in the form of the multiple Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) established in Bengaluru, says Parameswarappa.

Bengaluru at the beginning of the 20th century.

The present-day Bengaluru. K. MURALI KUMAR

If Hindustan Aeronautical Limited was established a few years before independence in 1941 in the city, post-independence, between 1951 and 1964, five more central PSUs took shape here. These included Indian Telephone Industries (ITI), Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT), Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bharat Heavy Electronics (BHEL) and Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML).

The city's location away from the borders and the not-so-friendly neighbours proved an ideal location for many sensitive PSUs and organisations such as defence, the space research organisation and so on, points out Parameswarappa.

Around these institutions formed an ecosystem of infrastructure and amenities to cater to them. The city also saw premium educational institutions like IISc coming up in the early 1900s. The availability of high-quality talent became one of the markers of the city.

"It was this heady mix of electricity coming in, industries getting started and institutions of excellence being established that led to the formation of a knowledge economy here, which facilitated the growth of companies like Infosys in the 1980s here," Parameswarappa notes.

The liberalisation of the economy and the markets opening up in the 1990s gave a shot in the arm to this process.

"The tipping points in history added up. Today, Bengaluru is the start-up capital and often compared to San Francisco," he adds.

A hub for innovation

While Bengaluru owes its 'tech city' title to the efforts of several people, Parameswarappa notes that one name stands out - R.K. Baliga.

The visionary engineer who moved to the U.S. in 1953 after his studies in IISc to work with GE and later had short stints in Japan and Paris was the first chairman of Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation (KEONICS.)

"He was fascinated with this strip of land in California near San Fransico, which you call Silicon Valley today. He always dreamt of starting something like that in India," says Parameswarappa.

Baliga moved back to India from the U.S. in 1960 to teach at Manipal Institute of Technology.

Powered by institutions like BEL, Karnataka was an electronics hub as far back as the 1950s, accounting for around 30% of India's electronics production. Baliga himself worked at BEL for about 15 years.

The idea of setting up a high-tech cluster similar to Silicon Valley stuck with him.

He presented the idea to then Chief Minister Devaraj Urs, who gave it a green signal. KEONICS was set up in 1976 with Baliga as its first Managing Director and 332 acres of land in Konappana Agrahara village 20 km to the south of Bangalore city was allocated for the cluster.

"KEONICS earmarked around 300 acres of land meant for just innovation in science and technology. Baliga dreamt of Electronics City as a stretch from Bangalore to Hosur, similar to that in the Valley, and having a space for innovation there. And we saw that happening in the Electronics City during the IT wave."

The technology companies that came up during this period further strengthened the culture of innovation, created an environment that would be conducive for the growth of startups in the future, and sparked an entrepreneurial mindset among future generations.

The 'gold' connection between two cities

The workshops at Kolar Gold Field mine site.

Silicon Valley, located in the southern part of the San Francisco Bay area, is home to many innovative technology companies. Bengaluru is today known as the Silicon Valley of India and is often compared to San Francisco due to the concentration of start-ups in the city. However, what is similar to both cities is the large presence of start-ups and how it all started. Interestingly, both have a 'golden' tinge. If Bengaluru was a beneficiary of electrification in the early 1900s due to gold in Kolar, San Fransico witnessed its gold rush in the mid 1800s.

In 1848, gold was discovered in the Sierra Nevada foothills, changing forever the fate of what was until then a sleepy town. Fortune seekers thronged the city to fish out gold from the river. Its population exploded, and infrastructure developed eventually. The western terminus of the United States' first transcontinental train line connecting its east and west coasts came up in the city. San Francisco turned up on the world map.

In 1891, Stanford University was established in the region. The university became a hub of talent and research, and by the 1940s, several engineering companies took shape in the area. In the 1950s, the Stanford Industrial Park was set up with 660 acres dedicated to research centres, manufacturing facilities and offices, and this marked the beginning of what is today known as the Silicon Valley.

Digital solutions to boost farmers' income

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

IIIT-Bangalore organised a workshop recently at Krishi Vignana Kendra (KVK) in Hirehalli, Tumakuru, to create digital solutions that boost farmers' income. The event brought together Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and innovators, facilitated by Dr. Loganandan, Scientist & Head at Hirehalli KVK, Government of India.

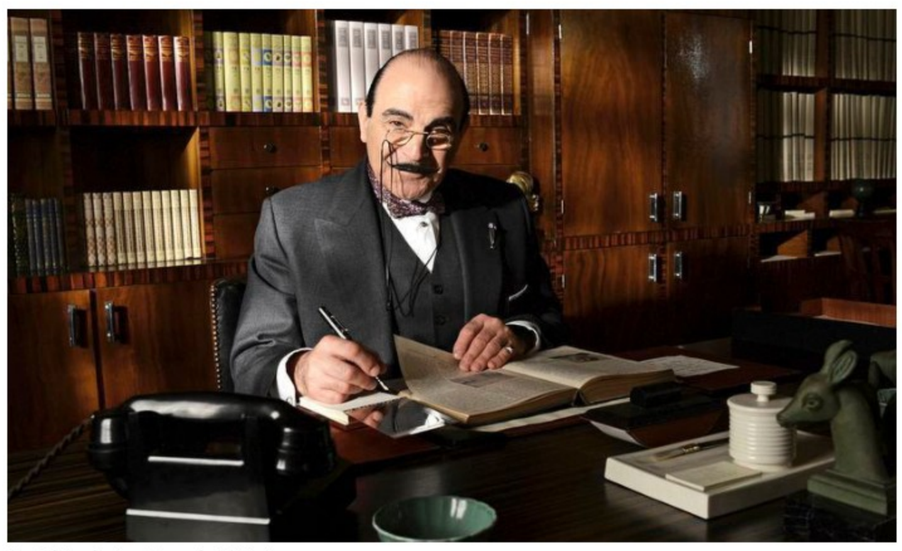
Farmers face several challenges, including unpredictable weather, limited access to information, and inefficient resource use. The collaborative effort demonstrated at the workshop aims to revolutionise farming through digital solutions, significantly bolstering profitability for farmers, said the release. Dr. Lakshmi explained, "This unique initiative is to bring together technology start-ups and FPOs / Farmers to co create digital solutions for identified problems on the ground. These problems can vary from real-time weather updates, crop data, precision farming tools to modern machinery to optimize resources and increasing yields."

When the character is made for the actor

When both the character and the actor are brilliant in their own right, we get something close to perfection

ABOUT 500 WORDS

Suresh Menon



David Suchet as Hercule Poirot. FILE PHOTO

As an avid reader of detective fiction in my youth, I was in good company. Philosophers Bertrand Russell and Wittgenstein were fans too, perhaps because the genre asks the same question as philosophy: Whodunnit?

Now I prefer watching on television such fine actors as David Suchet (Poirot), Jeremy Brett and Benedict Cumberbatch (Holmes), Geraldine McEwan (Miss Marple), John Thaw (Inspector Morse), John Hannah (John Rebus), Peter Falk (Columbo).

The British bias is not accidental. American detective fiction was initially all atmosphere and wisecracks and later all action and lacking in complexity. In both cases, the mystery-solvers were often mysterious themselves; either unidimensional and brooding (not always succeeding in suggesting depth) or conventional and with personal issues.

The British had more women solving crimes. *Prime Suspect* made its debut in the 90s. It was produced by a woman (Sally Head), written by a woman (Lynda La Plante) and starred a woman (Helen Mirren).

Television has further widened the gap between the American detective and their counterpart from Britain.

We watch two different people when a book becomes a TV serial. First, the character, the detective, who is fictional, has their own idiosyncrasies that might be either endearing or irritating. This person has been created by the writer. Then there is the actor, interpreting the character, bringing their own understanding to it, an existing person adding another layer to a non-existing one.

Bad characters can sometimes be rescued by good actors and vice versa. But when both the character and the actor are brilliant in their own right, we get something close to perfection.

Such a one is *Vera*, another series written by a woman, Ann Cleeves, and starring Brenda Blethyn, the finest detective on television. Blethyn portrays Vera Stanhope, the no-nonsense, middle-aged, hat-wearing, jalopy-driving, sharp-tongued but compassionate detective who lives alone. She drives through bleak, stark regions of northern England which are both attractive in a desolate sort of way, and depressing.

It's all in her eyes - the intelligence, the empathy, the mischief, the humour, the nuances of meaning, the hurt and occasional confusion. A glance reveals either the world-weary Vera or the little girl hidden under the layers of clothing and police experiences.

P.D. James, who wrote some of the finest in the genre, said a detective story is not about murder, but the restoration of order. Perhaps that is why it is so popular - we breathe a sigh of relief when after the physical and psychological mayhem, order is restored, god's in his heaven and all's right with the world.

Episodes of *Vera* don't stop with the revelation of the murderer, but continues just that bit longer to show Vera restoring some order to a disrupted life or two.

You might imagine that with so many detectives having solved so many crimes since Edgar Allan Poe's *Auguste Dupin* made his entry in 1841, we would know all the tricks by now. Yet, *Vera* often amazes us with the resolution - combining surprise and inevitability like the best of them do.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 8, 1974

Seeds and Inputs for Hassan and Mysore Dts.

Bangalore, July 6: The State Government has ordered the distribution of seeds and fertilizers and sanction of short-term credits on a war footing to farmers in the taluks of Hassan and Mysore districts, which are affected by the failure of rain in June, to facilitate the raising of a second crop in these areas.

The second crop is expected to mitigate the distress caused to the ryots by at least 75 per cent. The Government also has passed orders increasing the upper limit for outlay on irrigation pump sets from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 per horse-power in the affected areas. Similar concessions will be extended to other areas similarly affected. The decisions of the Government were disclosed to pressmen to-day by the Public Works and Electricity Minister.

New Layouts in Mysore for Poor People

Mysore, July 6: A surplus budget of Rs. 20.79 lakhs for the Mysore Municipality has been approved by the Divisional Commissioner who is also the administrative officer of the Municipality. Against the revenue receipt of Rs. 1,81,99,700, the estimated expenditure is of the order of Rs. 1,95,71,000. With the opening balance of Rs. 34,51,000, the budgetary surplus is Rs. 20,79,770. For the first time, a provision in the budget to the tune of Rs. 10.51 lakhs has been set apart for the welfare of scheduled castes, tribes and other weaker sections. For renovating the Municipal Council hall Rs. 50,000 is provided.

Keshav Venkataraghavan: 'Art is a visual thrill in form and colour'

Cartoonist Keshav Venkataraghavan, whose works are at Indian Cartoon Gallery for a retospective, speaks of his craft and how he developed his signature style

Ranjani Govind

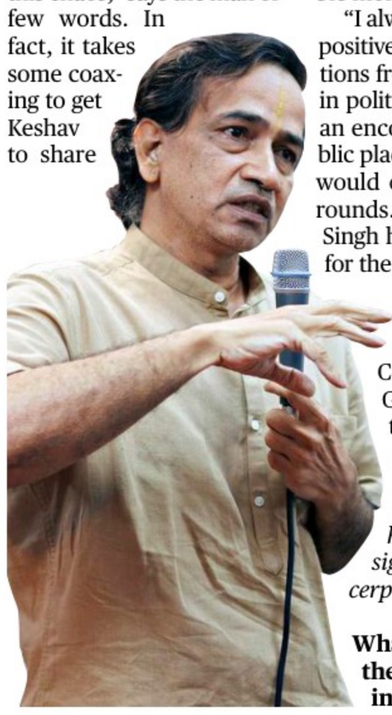
As part of its 17th anniversary celebrations of the Indian Cartoon Gallery, the Indian Institute of Cartoonists (IIC) presented the Bartons Lifetime Achievement Award to eminent cartoonist Keshav V on July 6 and organised a 15-day retrospective of his works.

Bengaluru-born Keshav Venkataraghavan has worked as the editorial cartoonist for *The Hindu* for more than three decades (until 2019).

He studied in Hyderabad and completed his M.Com from Madras University.

"Attracted to every form of art since childhood", Keshav channelled his "passion into a career by sketching people live at music concerts" for *Ananda Vikatan*, a Tamil weekly in Chennai.

Keshav is now trying to preserve his creations for posterity. "The volume to be archived is scary, but there is a semblance of a system in the midst of all this chaos," says the man of few words. In fact, it takes some coaxing to get Keshav to share some of the most memorable moments of his career.



"I always considered the positive and negative reactions from the well-known in politics and music to be an encouragement. In public places, my sketchbook would often be doing the rounds. Minister Jaswant Singh had twice asked me for the original of my caricatures of him, as did the then-Chief Election Commissioner KPS Gill. Arun Shourie too had collected a few of my works."

Keshav speaks on his craft and how he developed a signature style. Excerpts:

What were some of the earliest influences that made you take to art?

I used to draw since childhood. My drawing master, BA Reddy at Kendriya Vidyalaya in Golconda, Hyderabad, would encourage me by sending me for painting competitions.

I would be fascinated by the art coverage in the *Illustrated Weekly*. While I enjoyed oil paintings and marble sculptures at Salarjung Museum, my artistic sensibilities only grew after observing Raja Ravi Varma's work at the Jayachamarajendra Art Gallery in Mysore.

I still remember the first time I saw S Rajam's series of oil paintings in the copy of *The Ramayana* my father used to read.

That set me on a path I knew had to take. Rajam introduced me to Indian art, delving into its treasure of story telling with its *itihasas* and *puranas*.

Funny moments The cartoonist and some of his works. SPECIAL ARRANGAMENT

You always say appreciating art lies in understanding a larger gamut of artistic forms...

Art is a visual thrill in form and colour, whether it is a painting, sculpture, pottery, ceramics, dance, architecture or folk art.

Everything the eye can see becomes beautiful and is part of nature. In *Vishnudharmottara Purana*, the earliest comprehensive work on the theory and practise of temple architecture, painting and image creation in ancient India, the chapter Chitra Sutra elaborates on how an artist should be conversant with the allied arts of music, dance, sculpture, architecture and the like.

This profound sensibility helped spread my interest to everything I saw. Observation was the key.

Tell us of the journey to developing your style

My training in cartoons came during my stint at *Ananda Vikatan* when I was a freelancer. I was fortunate that a small sample

of my illustrations was picked up by the editor at that time, TS Sridhar, a cartoonist, writer and playwright.

He exposed me to the world of cartooning and gave me a sketchpad and season ticket to the Music Academy (and other venues) to sketch live from observing.

He taught me about drawing and sketching of different kinds – including humour.

He would speak highly of cartoonists such as David Low and others like Ronald Searle, Paul Conrad, Herblock, Pat Oliphant and John Macnelly.

I began directly sketching at public places – street corners, bus stands, the Parliament, press conferences, cricket matches and concert venues, they proved to be great practice sessions. I sketched the Madras Music Season for about 16 years.

After Sridhar retired, leading cartoonist Madhan schooled me in the nuances and the use of metaphors, visual phrases and slapstick humour. I was gradually introduced to *Punch, Mad* and other cartoon journals. I joined *The Hindu* in 1987, and took on editorial cartooning. Initially, I was fortunate to work under editor G Kasturi whose lucid guidance came through with a minimum words. Later, EP Unny helped me understand the intricacies of politics.

What do you think of the evolution of cartooning?

I feel cartooning should have remained as black and white sketches. There was so much one could say with the composition – the use of black and empty space. Colour illustrations may have evolved with the times, but they do not have the same impact. However, there are some cartoonists like Michael Ramirez who excel in drawing in colour, too.

Cartoons have evolved with the advent of the social media; one has to adapt to the changing scenario. However, I believe the present generation is not too interested in editorial cartooning. It involves a lot of reading, understanding issues and spending hours to execute them. Today, those who can draw well and are conversant with the present digital tools prefer animation.

Do you work to music?

When I compose a sketch in pencil or brush, it is always in silence. I use music only when I begin the colouring work – it helps me immerse myself into its intricacies.

Your advice to art students?

I would suggest youngsters draw from life. Keep sketching. Observe. Read books and just go on practising. Learning never stops. Be conversant with history. Never lose your sense of humour. As a cartoonist one may have to be irreverent, but be like RK Laxman who would insist on a "dignified irreverence."

The retrospective on Keshav's work will be on at Indian Cartoon Gallery till July 20. Call 99800 91428 for details

About intersectionality, empathy and queer love

Diya Vinekar

In an effort to address a topic often overlooked, playwright and director Karthik Hebbar has crafted a thought-provoking play, *Amma Mathu Suhail* (My Mother and Suhail).

Produced by the Dheemahi Center of Arts, the focus of the play is to promote the message of mutual understanding.

"I wanted to create a story that made me feel seen – something that future college-going 'Karthiks' could relate to," Karthik says.

The play, originally written in Kannada with English subtitles, delves into the life of a gay, interfaith couple, grappling with the micro-aggressions arising from their diversity.

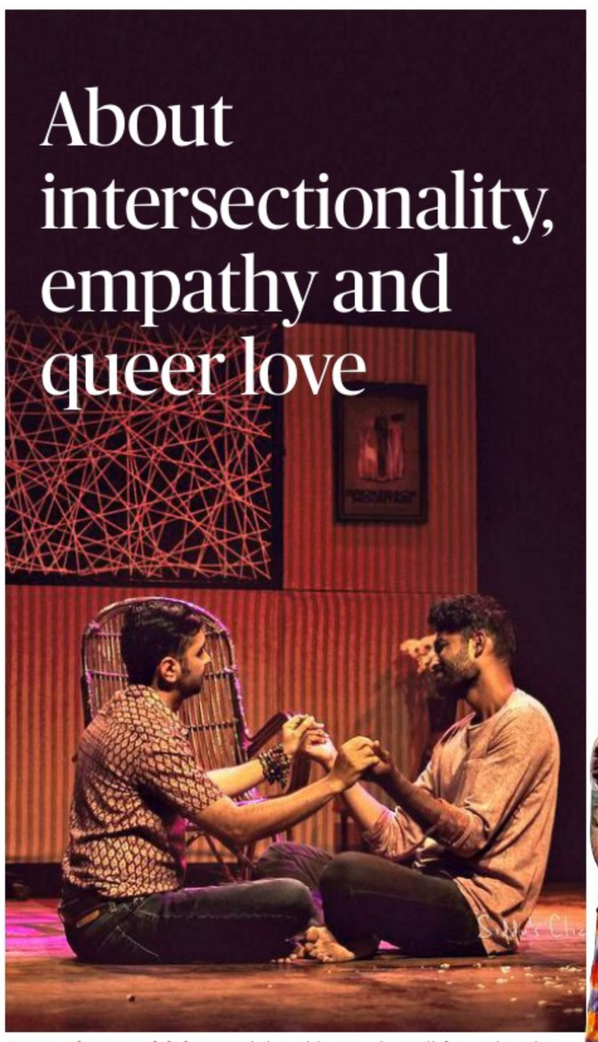
Musical journey

Through a musical journey filled with humour, drama and laughter and tears, the play highlights the beauty and the challenges of their relationship.

Bringing a certain emotional depth to their performance, Hebbar sings the scores live, using music composed by various musicians such as Jagjit Singh and Amir Khusrau as well as some self-composed pieces to pass on his message.

The narrative unravels issues of homophobia and Islamophobia, leaving the audience in an introspective mood.

"I saw general hate in the mainstream media and political discourse. Further, even within the queer community, there is an oppression of other minorities by elites. Seeing this inspired me to write the story," Karthik adds.



Promoting sensitivity Karthik Hebbar and a still from the play. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The play also addresses the problems of generational trauma and societal divides.

Many from the audience, who have been inspired by the play, have rewatched the play. "It was heart warming to see them bring their family and come out to them after watching our play."

The play, originally written in Kannada delves into the life of a gay, interfaith couple, and the micro-aggressions arising from their diversity

This play emphasises that love and empathy can go a long way.

Realising the pain one goes through and working with them as they battle it out, is the central idea of the play.

Amma Mathu Suhail not only calls for acceptance but alsohighlights the importance of bridging societal divides. It is a play for all ages and backgrounds; all one needs is an open heart and mind.

Amma Mathu Suhail will be staged at the Bangalore International Centre, Domlur, on July 8.

For details log on to bangaloreinternational-centre.org/

A fine character study of lonely people

Portraying harsh reality Aravind Iyer in a still from the film. BOILED BEANS PICTURES/YOUTUBE

FILM REVIEW

Vivek MV

Arvind Sastry's *Bisi-Bisi-Ice-Cream* has Arvind Iyer playing Raghava, a cab driver. He is living a lonely life, giving the impression that he is just waiting for his life to end. Siri Ravikumar plays a high-end escort. Her silence conveys her immense sorrow and she has nobody for emotional support.

Arvind's film identifies itself as a slow-burn thriller, but at heart, it is a character study of companionless people. For most of the first half, the director is in no hurry to move the plot forward. By only showing his central characters go through their motions, he aims to convey that there is no escape from the mundaneness for people, who work to make ends meet.

The director takes you through the city's underbelly, apart from showcasing the day-to-day haunts of struggler's, like petty shops and roadside eateries. Raghava and Siri's character (who has no name in the film) live in tiny rooms. With barely any space to move around, they go to the terrace to break free from the suffocation and find solace.

Nakul Abhayankar's music acts as a character in the film. Arvind uses songs instead of dialogues to enhance the atmospheric tone, and the montage songs, with sharp lyrics, describe the many shades of the lead characters. Some melodious numbers, showing the quiet moments of Raghava and Siri's character, add charm to the narrative which is further propelled by Enosh Olivera's stylised cinematography.

The film is helped by the performances of the lead actors, with Aravind outshining everyone. In the second half, he is brilliant as a man excited by a glimmer of hope after almost giving up on life. Gopalakrishna Desphande plays a pimp who also considers himself a "sophisticated businessman" by running a small brothel. The three characters get entangled, leading to a series of adventures.

Gopalakrishna's character adds zing to the film at the right time. With a comical, over-the-top performance, he strikes again, showing why he is one of the most dependable character artistes in Kannada cinema today.

It is impressive to spin a neo-noir tale with just three characters. Arvind splits the film into chapters, and slowly builds up things, promising a strong finale, but the climax is a let down. The abrupt end feels impractical, considering how the story is realistically told till the last act. The film also leaves some questions regarding the background of the lead characters unanswered.

In his previous two films – *Kahi* and *Alidu Ulidavaru* – Arvind made a clever thriller by joining the dots well. *Bisi-Bisi Ice-Cream* is more about form than substance, and the storytelling trumps the script. You do not complain because even if it begins slowly, the movie draws you in and keeps you interested in the proceedings.

Bisi-Bisi Ice-Cream is currently running in theatres

Bisi-Bisi Ice-Cream (Kannada)

Director: Arvind Sastry
Cast: Aravind Iyer, Siri Ravikumar, Gopalakrishna Deshpande, Shanil Guru
Runtime: 132 minutes
Storyline: A mysterious woman walks into the life of a heartbroken cab driver. She is both a cure for his miseries and an inception to many adventures

MUDA site allocation: 'No wrongdoing on part of Siddaramaiah or his wife'

Mahadevappa says the authority is at fault for illegally acquiring land belonging to Parvathi and converting it into sites

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa refuted allegations of any wrongdoing on the part of either Chief Minister Siddaramaiah or his wife Parvathi, in the contentious issue of compensatory site allocation for their land acquired by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

Addressing a press conference here on Sunday, Dr. Mahadevappa said that the MUDA was at fault for illegally acquiring 3.16 acres of land belonging to Ms. Parvathi and converting it into sites. The MUDA itself has accepted its mistake, apologised, and sought to compensate and everything was done legally, claimed Dr. Mahadevappa.

He reiterated what Mr. Siddaramaiah had stated recently that neither he nor his wife had asked for sites at a specific location and had accepted what was sanctioned by the MUDA.

'Vested interest groups'

"But the larger issue is that vested interest groups have used it as an example to claim compensatory sites under the 50:50 scheme and this will be investigated and the guilty punished," said Dr. Mahadevappa.

Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa, left, at a press conference in Mysuru on Sunday. M.A. SRIRAM

To a question on why the government was hesitant to take action against the then MUDA Commissioner who ignored multiple reminders by the then Deputy Commissioner, who had flagged the irregularities, to submit records for verification, Dr. Mahadevappa sounded ambivalent and said that once the inquiry committee submits its report, action would be initiated and the "guilty would not be spared".

'Similar compensation'

When asked whether all those who lost their land to MUDA's acquisition exercise would also be compensated in a similar manner as the CM's wife, Dr. Mahadevappa said that the law was equal for all.

Dr. Mahadevappa also said that the land was originally purchased by one Javara, in an auction by the then Deputy Commissioner in 1985. Hence, it was not an SC/ST land, the sale of which is prohibited under the Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act. "But the Opposition was trying to gain mileage by claiming that it was an SC/ST land and the original sale itself was illegal. The fact that the DC in 1985 put it for auction proves that it was not SC/ST land," added Dr. Mahadevappa.

Questions over value of 3.16 acres of land

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

In the affidavit filed for the 2018 Assembly elections, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah declared 3.16 acres of land under immovable properties. He had also disclosed that it was in the name of his wife who had received it as a gift from her brother D.M. Mallikarjunaswamy, and the total value declared was ₹25 lakh.

But in the affidavit filed for the 2023 Assembly elections, Mr. Siddaramaiah declared 14 sites in Vijayanagar with cumulative area of 37,190.99 sqft and the value pegged at ₹8.33 crore.

At a press conference in Mysuru on Sunday, Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa was ambivalent on how 3.16 acres of land in a place like Kesare on the outskirts of Mysuru could fetch ₹62 crore as claimed by Mr. Siddaramaiah, and whether the property value could increase from ₹25 lakh, as mentioned in the 2018 affidavit, to ₹62 crore by 2024.

But M. Lakshman, KPCC spokesperson, said that there was no reason why the market value could not have increased and what was stated in the affidavit may not have reflected the true market value.

Bypoll: JD(S) workers urge party leaders to retain Channapatna seat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the run-up to the Channapatna Assembly constituency byelection, local Janata Dal (Secular) leaders are bringing pressure on the high command to retain the seat, even as they have been asked to confabulate with C.P. Yogeshwar, BJP MLC and former Channapatna MLA, over the choice of the NDA candidate.

The JD(S) workers and leaders from Channapatna, who met Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy to discuss the bypoll preparation in Bengaluru on Sunday, were asked to take Mr. Yogeshwar into confidence at every step and seek his guidance. Another meeting is expected during the next visit of Mr. Kumaraswamy after which the NDA candidate will be identified.

Party sources said that while it is unlikely that any member of H.D. Deve Gowda's family will contest the byelection, the NDA is also likely to wait, and watch developments in the Congress over the candidate selection. "People's pulse is being evaluated keenly now. The NDA candidate's selection will also depend on who the Congress candidate will be. There could be a surprise candidate," they said.

Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy meeting JD(S) leaders in Bengaluru on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The seat fell vacant owing to the resignation of Mr. Kumaraswamy after he was elected as Mandya MP.

Of the byelections to three Assembly seats, including that of Shiggaon and Sandur, the Channapatna seat has evoked keen interest as Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar has immersed himself in the election preparation.

The involvement of the Deputy Chief Minister is being seen as an attempt to redeem his pride and position in Vokkaliga politics that took a beating in the Lok Sabha elections.

Party sources said that the Union Minister told his party cadre that there was no need to spoil the alliance, and that the decision on the candidate would be based on discussions with the BJP leader.

"The cadre felt that since the BJP would be contesting in Shiggaon and Sandur, the JD(S) may be allowed to retain Channapatna. Also, the JD(S) has a huge base here."

Mr. Kumaraswamy told party leaders and workers that there should be no confusion over the candidate.

"Whoever is chosen would be the candidate of the NDA. Everyone has to work unitedly to ensure the victory of the NDA candidate," he added.

'Meeting soon to decide on second airport location'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A meeting will be convened soon to decide the location for the proposed second airport for Bengaluru, said Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil.

Mr. Patil told presspersons on Sunday that before making the final decision, the government will consider two main aspects: passenger load and connectivity to the existing Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

"If we prioritise passenger load, areas such as Sarjapur and Kanakapura Road are strong contenders," Mr. Patil maintained. "On the other hand, if connectivity to the existing airport becomes a priority, places like Tumakuru and Dabaspete will be in the lead," he noted.

These considerations will be discussed in the next department meeting and further reviewed with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The matter will also be brought up before the Cabinet, he said.

He pointed out that an exclusivity clause with Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which restricts the establishment of another airport within a 150-kilometre radius, ends in 2032, allowing the potential development of a new airport by 2033. "Considering the time required for land acquisition and compensation for landowners, the government has initiated the planning process now itself," the Minister stated.

Mr. Patil pointed out that major cities like New York and London have multiple airports in close proximity.

Regarding the Tamil Nadu government's decision to build an airport in Hosur, Mr. Patil said it needs to be examined whether the exclusivity clause with BIAL applies to this proposed airport too.

CORRIDORS OF POWER

A poster campaign that worked

A poster campaign launched by residents of Arsikere forced K.M. Shivalinge Gowda, MLA, *(pictured)* of the Congress to visit Babasahab Colony in the town on June 4, along with officers of the city municipal council to hear their rain-related grievances.

Angry with the MLA not showing up to address their grievances, residents put up posters asking: "Where is our MLA?". They pointed out that houses were getting damaged owing to rains, and drains were full. Besides that, they also urged the MLA to visit their locality at least once a year to check if the people who voted for him were alive or dead. The posters had gone viral on social media.

Within a day, the MLA, who is also chairman of the Karnataka Housing Board, visited the locality and listened to the residents. Residents complained to him about the increase in fever cases, improper drains, and drinking water supply issues, among other problems.

Siddaramaiah dons teacher's role

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah *(pictured)* donned the role of a teacher at Morarji Desai Boarding School of Chamarajpet, Bengaluru, during his surprise visit on July 5. He interacted with students and tested their Kannada grammar knowledge, with questions such as how many letters are there in the Kannada alphabet and how many vowels and consonants are there in Kannada. Mr. Siddaramaiah described the differences between *Alpa Prana* (non-aspirate letters) and *Maha Prana* (aspirate letters) with examples. He explained how *Sandhis* are formed. Explaining about the importance of philosopher-reformer Basavanna, the Chief Minister explained the social revolution he brought about.

When the Chief Minister asked who had started Morarji Desai schools in the State and when, the students said that he had himself done it during his previous tenure. It appears that the Chief Minister enjoys playing the role of teacher every now and then, especially to teach Kannada grammar. He had done so on the floor of the House too.

Why Jarkiholi did not become a sanyasi

Can you imagine Ramesh Jarkiholi *(pictured)*, former Minister and BJP leader, as a *sanyasi* in the Himalayas? He told his supporters recently that such was his plan once. "I went there as I wanted to leave this world and take up *sanyas*. I spent some time looking for a comfortable cave to spend the rest of my life," he said. Why did the leader, known for his taste for the good things in life, think of such a thing?

If he is to be believed, he was upset with the less-than-impressive performance of the BJP in the 2023 Assembly polls. "I felt insulted and I wanted to go away from public life... I would have surely left if the BJP did not win the Lok Sabha seat from Belagavi. But then, the people supported and voted Jagadish Shettar to power. Now, I will not go anywhere," he told his supporters in Gokak. It did not sound like he meant it as a joke.

Sathish G.T.
Jayanth R.
Rishikesh Bahadur Desai

BJP begins byelection work, appoints in-charge leaders

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP has begun preparations for byelections to three seats of the Assembly and one of the Council by appointing in-charge leaders for them. The byelections were necessitated after the legislators representing them resigned after they got elected to the Lok Sabha.

In Channapatna that has attracted the attention of the entire State owing to the interest shown by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, the BJP has chosen former Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan as one of the in-charge leaders.

Interestingly, he was also in charge of the Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha seat, which includes the Channapatna Assembly segment, in the recent Lok Sabha polls in which Mr. Shivakumar's brother D.K. Suresh lost.

Legislators M. Krishnappa and Gopinath Reddy, and party State general secretary Nandish Reddy too have been appointed in-charge leaders for this segment.

In-charge leaders for other constituencies are: MPs Basavaraj Bommai, Kota Srinivas Poojary and Capt. Brijesh Chowta, and party general secretary Preetham Gowda (Dakshina Kannada seat for Council); Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok, Deputy Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Arvind Bellad, MLA Mahesh Tenginakayi, and party general secretary P. Rajeev (Shiggaon); MP Govind Karjol, legislators V. Sunil Kumar, N. Ravikumar, and K. S. Naveen (Sandur);

Ashok: Declare 'dengue emergency' in State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Urging the government to declare a 'dengue emergency' in Karnataka, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok on Sunday suggested that the State government should bear the cost of dengue tests.

"More than two lakh people are found to be having dengue in the State. The government should bear the cost of dengue tests. Why is it not possible for the government to conduct free tests to detect dengue, when it is collecting higher tax after increasing the prices of petroleum products? The government will spend just about ₹10 crore if it bears the cost," Mr. Ashok told presspersons here. He pointed out that in some health centres, upto ₹1,000 is being charged.

Mr. Ashok said: "Dengue is spreading and in every 100 random tests, 13 to 14 samples are turning out to be positive. The government should have set up a taluk-level task force and ensure medicines for patients, besides taking precautionary measures."

"Only if the government declares a dengue emergency, officials will work properly. One ward in every hospital should be reserved for dengue patients. Ashas and anganwadi workers should be deployed on a house-to-house survey. Fogging should be undertaken. Steps should be taken to instill confidence in people."

TOWN PANCHAYATH KUKANOOR
Tq: Kukanoor Dist: Koppal Ph No:08534- 230845
Email ID : itstaff_ulb_kukanoor@yahoo.com
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ:ಪ.ಪಂ./ಕಾ.ವಿ/2024-25/57 ದಿನಾಂಕ:-06-07-2024

KPPP Tender Announcement
(Tenders are invited subject to the provisions of Standard Tender Procurement K.W-1/2/3/4)

On behalf of the Governor of the State of Karnataka, tenders are invited from qualified contractors registered in the KPPP portal for the following works through the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal under the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal under the grant of various projects in Kukanur Town Panchayath under the Karnataka Public Procurement and Transparency Act, 2000.

For the following works as per KPPP Portal Last Date of Application: 16-07-2024 at 5:00 PM and Tender Opening Date: 17-07-2024 at 5:30 PM or later and Financial Bids Will be open later.

1.DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT18828. Tender Amount in Rs: **43,66,543.21.** E.M.D Amount in Rs.: **88,000.00**
2.DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT18826. Tender Amount in Rs: **65,78,431.58.** E.M.D Amount in Rs:**1,32,000.00**
3.DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT18821. Tender Amount in Rs::**84,34,305.27.** E.M.D Amount in Rs **1,69,000.00**
4.DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT18899. Tender Amount in Rs:: **5,25,496.09.** E.M.D Amount in Rs: **13,200.00**
5.DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT19910. Tender Amount in Rs::**15,24,790.90.** E.M.D Amount in Rs: **38,200.00**
6.DMA/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT119945. Tender Amount in Rs:: **3,16,457.12.** E.M.D Amount in Rs: **8,000.00**
7.DMA/2024-25/BR/WORK_INDENT19941. Tender Amount in Rs:: **19,21,577.10.** E.M.D Amount in Rs: **49,000.00**

Note :- Any changes in Calendar of events will be published in http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only

ಸಹಿ/-ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕುಕನೂರು.

DIPR/Koppal/139/KSMCA/2024-25

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Only through KPP-Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders from registered Agencies for the following works:

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender / EMD (in Rs.)	Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1	South-1	BWSSB/EES-1/AE/TO/590/2024-25, Date: 04.07.2024 (Call-2)	Rs.56,13,281/- / Rs.1,32,500/-	15.07.2024 upto 4:00 PM	18.07.2024 after 4:00 PM

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (South-1)**

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design & QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009

2	DE& PS	BWSSB/EDEPSTE/AE/151/2024-25, Date: 05.07.2024 (3rd Call)	Rs.14,24,433/- / Rs.42,100/-	15.07.2024 upto 11:00 AM	16.07.2024 after 11:15 AM

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (DE&PS)**

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurment process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/BCPL/813/2024-25

KMF Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789 fax: 080-25536105

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/CFPR-Solar Water Heater/1893/2024-25 **Date: 05-07-2024**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible manufacturers/ authorised dealer through KPP Portal for the works mentioned in the table below.The interested manufacturers /contractors who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of Completion
1	Design, Supply, Installation and commissioning of 12000 LPD Solar Water Heater, piping and related works to cattle feed plant Rajanukunte.	1 Job	50,000/-	2 Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 08-07-2024 to 16-7-2024 up to 4.00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 16-7-2024 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 18-7-2024 at 4:30 pm.

For KARNATAKA MILK FEDERATION LTD,
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

Old traditions, new ties

Narendra Modi must try and convince Vladimir Putin to end the Ukraine war

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Moscow on Monday reaffirms an old tradition of holding annual summits between India and Russia leaders. With Russia his first choice for a bilateral visit in his third tenure, he also breaks a tradition that Indian Prime Ministers travel to neighbouring countries on their first stand-alone visits in a tenure, indicating the importance of the India-Russia partnership. The 22nd India-Russia Annual Summit has another first – the first Modi-Putin meet since the Ukraine war. The 21st summit was in Delhi in December 2021, just before Russian President Vladimir Putin launched "special operations" on Ukraine. Since then, the two leaders have met just once, at the SCO summit in Uzbekistan, where Mr. Modi had stated that this was not the "era of war". Russia's growing dependence on China as a result of the war is also a concern for India, given tensions over the LAC. While there will be a scheduled framework of talks on bilateral issues (trade and energy relationships, space cooperation for Gaganyaan, and declining but substantial defence supplies), there will also be an opportunity to take stock of the war in Ukraine. Apart from its impact and western sanctions on global security, and shortages of food, fuel and fertilizers, India has been worried about its fallout on defence deliveries and spares from Russia. While an attempt to "Make in India" has made headway (Russian assault rifles and the India-Russia BrahMos missile), concerns over the reliability of supplies and the payments issue will need discussion. New Delhi's concern over Indian recruitments by the Russian army is another issue, officials indicate.

Above all, Mr. Modi's visit sends a geopolitical message given the contrast to another summit in Washington. On Tuesday, U.S. President Joseph Biden will welcome leaders of NATO countries for the transatlantic grouping's 75th anniversary. With Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Indo-Pacific leaders who are part of the western sanctions present, it will be a show of strength supposed to demonstrate Russia's "isolation". Mr. Modi has attempted a balance with his presence at the G-7 summit outreach in Italy last month and meeting Mr. Zelenskyy, and later sending an official delegation to the Peace Conference in Switzerland. The government has also shown its enduring commitment to traditional ties with Russia that stem from the 1971 Soviet Union Peace and Friendship treaty, by refusing to condemn the war at the UN and other multilateral forums, while continuing to engage with Russia bilaterally and at groupings such as the SCO, BRICS and the G-20. All eyes during Mr. Modi's visit will then be on how he uses India's particular multi-polar, unaligned perch to further the cause of "dialogue and diplomacy" and help hasten an end to the conflict that has divided the world.

Winds of change

The rest of the world must do more to engage with reformists in Iran

The victory of Masoud Pezeshkian, a reformist who opposes moral policing of women and calls for engagement rather than confrontation with the West, in Iran's presidential run-off, shows that the Islamic Republic, plagued by economic woes and social tensions, is still capable of springing a surprise. Until a few months ago, Iran's executive, legislature and judiciary were controlled by the so-called 'principalists' (conservatives), who were opposed to reforms. The last few years also saw protests and state repression. The revolution seemed to be ageing. Yet, the Islamic Republic has elected a candidate who calls for change, in a poll that was necessitated by the death of Ebrahim Raisi, a conservative, in a helicopter crash in May. Mr. Pezeshkian, whose only administrative experience was a cabinet berth in the Khatami government over two decades ago, was a relatively obscure figure until last month. When his candidacy was cleared by the Guardian Council, Iran's reformist coalition, which had been weakened after back-to-back electoral setbacks, threw its weight behind him. Mr. Khatami, and Hassan Rouhani, moderate cleric and President from 2013-21, endorsed him. In the July 5 run-off, he won 53.6% votes to beat conservative rival Saeed Jalili.

In recent years, a growing number of Iran's voters have stayed away from elections as a protest against the system. In the first round of the presidential election, the 39.9% turnout fuelled debates about the legitimacy crisis of the semi-representative system. But the possibility of a reformist victory brought more voters in the run-off. The nearly 50% turnout helped Mr. Pezeshkian defeat Mr. Jalili despite a conservative consolidation behind him. This also means that the voters have high hopes about Mr. Pezeshkian, who in the past has spoken out against the way protests were handled by security personnel. He also backs dialogue with the West to revive the 2015 nuclear deal, which was sabotaged by Washington in 2018. It is to be seen how far he can go in a system tightly controlled by the Shia clergy. Iran's President, the highest elected official, has limited powers in the country's theocracy which is commanded by the Supreme Leader. But with his strong mandate, Mr. Pezeshkian should not shy away from pushing for change. The clerical establishment should see his victory as a message from the public. This is an opportunity to promote gradual reforms at home and careful engagement with the world. If Mr. Pezeshkian and the clergy reach common ground, Iran has a chance to ride out the storms engulfing it.

A law around low-carbon climate resilient development

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In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India recently recognised a right to be "free from the adverse impacts of climate change" in *M.K. Ranjitsinh and Others vs Union of India* – sourcing it from the right to life and the right to equality. In a previous article on this page in this daily, "Court on climate right and how India can enforce it" (July 1, 2024), we argued that while this is indeed an important step in establishing climate jurisprudence in India, it raises the very important question of just how this right will be protected.

Earlier, we had suggested that a patchwork of judicial interventions would fall short of the encompassing and systemic approach climate change requires. There is, therefore, a strong case for climate legislation, but only if it is tailored to the Indian context. Taking this issue forward provides an opportunity, but also a challenge, for the new government.

Law to inform development choices

Preparing India to reduce the risks of climate change and address its impacts requires nothing less than re-orienting development toward low-carbon and climate resilient futures. Any law that attempts to take this on must ensure these objectives are internalised in routine decision-making at all levels of development. Because climate change relentlessly targets the vulnerable, and because an energy transition must be just, it must be grounded in the imperative of advancing social justice.

While the concept of climate law is often associated with a top-down approach of setting and achieving targets, in a developing country, this approach is limited because addressing climate change is about more than limiting emissions.

Instead, it requires careful, ongoing, consideration of each developmental choice and its long-run synergies and tradeoffs with low-carbon and climate resilient futures. To achieve this, the substantive right of protection against adverse effects of climate change must be realised, in part, through well-defined procedures in law that are applicable across levels of government. Climate action is more credible when a well-designed institutional structure is strategising, prioritising, troubleshooting and evaluating policies behind the scenes.

Several countries (67 according to one estimate) have experimented with 'framework climate laws' that build governance capacity to address climate change. Umbrella laws that define government-wide goals and substantiate them with a set of processes and accountability measures are a known and increasingly popular way of bringing climate action to the heart of government.

However, these laws vary, and India's approach must be tailored to our context. Starting from a low base of per capita emissions – less than half the global average – India's emissions are still growing, and our objective should be to squeeze out as much development as possible from each ton of carbon and avoid locking-in to high carbon futures. Moreover, India is highly vulnerable to climate impacts, and climate resilience must be an essential element of the new law. In meeting both objectives, considerations of social equity must be central. Consequently, India's law must ensure development, but in a low-carbon direction while building resilience to ever more pervasive climate impacts.

The 'M.K. Ranjitsinh' judgment must be used to pass a climate law that is well suited to the Indian context

What we arrive at, then, is a law that helps navigate developmental choices. It must create the basis for thoughtful decision-making toward achieving a low-carbon, resilient society. For example, since Indian cities are still growing and changing rapidly, what could low-carbon, climate resilient cities of the future look like? And what levers exist to shape those cities? How can city planning minimise the risk of floods and vulnerability to heatwaves? How should transport needs be met through technology shifts such as electric vehicle adoption and greater attention to public transport and lifestyle shifts?

Have a low carbon development body

A framework climate law should lay out an institutional structure capable of crafting viable answers to these questions. Our ongoing work at the Sustainable Futures Collaborative provides some suggestions. An immediate priority is to create a knowledge body in government capable of rigorously parsing policy options and the futures they might generate. We recommend an independent 'low-carbon development commission', staffed with experts and technical staff, which could offer both national and State governments practical ways of achieving low-carbon growth and resilience.

This body could also serve as a platform for deliberative decision-making. Vulnerable communities and those that may lose from technological change need to be systematically consulted. Hearing their concerns and incorporating some of their ideas could lead to longer-lasting policy outcomes. An example is South Africa's Presidential Climate Commission, which is tasked with charting a course toward just transition based on inputs and representations from stakeholders.

Effective climate governance also requires the ability to set directions, make strategic choices, and encourage the consideration of low carbon choices and climate change impacts within line ministries. Accordingly, the law could create a high-level strategic body, which we label a 'climate cabinet', a core group of Ministers plus representation from Chief Ministers of States, tasked with driving strategy through government. Across the world, climate policy is often defeated by siloed decision-making. This is one way of fixing it.

A whole-of-government approach will also require dedicated coordination mechanisms for implementation. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change should continue to play a central role, but it needs to be complemented by higher-level coordination. Here, the pre-existing Executive Committee on Climate Change (made up of senior bureaucrats from multiple Ministries), provides a useful template but only if it is reinvigorated with clearly specified legal powers and duties.

Engagement with the federal structure

Not least, the law must pay attention to India's federal structure. Many areas crucial to reducing emissions and improving resilience – electricity, agriculture, water, health and soil – are wholly or partially the preserve of State and local governments. When a climate impact is felt, it is felt first, and most viscerally, at local levels.

Any institutional structure or regulatory instrument created to protect the Court's newly established climate right must meaningfully engage with subnational governments. First, the law must establish a channel for subnational governments to access national scientific capacity, potentially through the low-carbon development commission as an intermediary, as a step toward solving the pervasive problem of insufficient local climate scientific capacity.

Second, it could articulate ways of financing local action, for example by requiring centrally-sponsored schemes to be more aligned with climate goals or by requiring national departments to climate tag expenditure towards local climate resilience.

Third, the law could establish coordination mechanisms that allow the Centre and States to consult on major climate decisions. It could also require the Centre and States to put out periodically updated medium-term climate plans built around unified goals. To enable development of State-specific solutions, States could also build complementary institutions to those at the Centre, providing knowledge, strategy-setting, deliberation and coordination functions.

The framework law proposed here – one that enables and catalyses action across national Ministries and the federal structure – cannot be the only legal tool in the country's regulatory arsenal. Complementary sectoral laws and amendments may be required, but they would be informed by the approach laid out by the framework law.

The Court's historical pronouncement in *M.K. Ranjitsinh* opens the door to legal and governance changes that make possible an actionable right against the adverse effects of climate change. But to realise this promise, this open door has to actually be used to pass a climate law that is well suited to the Indian context, that steers Indian development choices toward a low-carbon and climate resilient future, and that also advances justice.

The ANRF plan has got off on the wrong foot

Binay Panda
Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University

In 2023, both Houses of Parliament passed the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) Bill, marking a historic start to an initiative to seed, grow, and facilitate research in India, especially in India's universities and colleges.

The 2019 National Research Foundation (NRF) project report explicitly mentioned that "growing outstanding research cells already existing at State Universities" is one of the ANRF's top priority. The scientific community welcomed the Bill and was hoping that the ANRF would provide much-needed breathing space for Indian academia for research free from the bureaucracy, in addition to providing a funding boost and a chance to work together with industry partners.

Lack of industry representation

Nearly a year later and the ANRF has got off on the wrong foot. Recently, it announced a 15-member Governing Board and a 16-member Executive Council, which lack representation from organisations the ANRF envisioned aiding and facilitating.

For example, the ANRF aims to strengthen the research infrastructure of universities. Even acknowledging that more than 95% of students attend State universities and colleges in India, the board and the executive council do not have any members from Central or State universities or colleges. In addition to the Principal Scientific Adviser, they are represented by people who are usually in any high-powered committees of the Government of India – Secretaries from all science departments (Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), earth sciences, agriculture, health research, atomic energy, new and renewable energy, electronics and information technology), higher education and defence research and development, directors of the Indian Institute of Science and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Chair of the Indian Council of Historical Research, a Princeton mathematics professor, a science administrator and former Director of the United States National Science Foundation from Brown University and a Silicon Valley serial entrepreneur.

The composition of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation's governing board and executive council shows that it could become just another government department

However, the board and the council need representatives who understand the bottlenecks in the current system, especially in the university system, and know how to get things done on the ground rather than being in an advisory role.

Most importantly, the ANRF needs to avoid the confusion that can arise from multiple committees. Therefore, creating a single committee to formulate and implement strategies on the ground is crucial. This emphasis on ground-level knowledge and experience among the committee members should reassure the research community and stakeholders that the ANRF's decision-making process will be informed, competent, and timely.

The lack of adequate industry representation and diversity is one of the most glaring omissions from the current board and council, especially when the ANRF plans to raise more than 70% of its funding from non-government sources and industry. The sole industry representative, Romesh T. Wadhwani, is an Indian-American businessman based in Silicon Valley, U.S., and the sole woman representative is the Secretary of the DSIR. There is no representation from Indian industry or any entrepreneurs from the country or eminent academics from the Central and State universities on the committee.

R&D underfunding

India underfunds research and development. In addition to increasing the research and development budget to 4% of GDP, a significant overhaul of the current funding system is required to boost research and to make innovation coming out of Indian organisations globally competitive. To achieve this, the ANRF must: be adequately staffed; implement a robust grant management system; have an internal standard peer-review system with an incentive for reviewers; ensure timely disbursal of research grants and student fellowships with a quick turn-around time (less than six months) between application and fund disbursal; have a system free from bureaucratic hurdles both at the funding body and at grantee institutions; provide flexibility of spending money without following the government's stringent general financial rules (GFR), and permit purchases without going through the Government e-marketplace (GeM) portal.

The ANRF must function unlike any other current government science department, It should have more diverse representations of practising natural and social scientists from the university system, with more women and young entrepreneurs in its committee. Additionally, the future chief executive officer of the ANRF must have a background in both industry and academia, and be someone who can raise money for the ANRF and understand the global innovation ecosystem. A complete overhaul is required for the ANRF to avoid becoming like any other government department and to bridge research and teaching in our universities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Left of centre shifts

Departing from the existing winds favouring right of centre ascendancy in many countries, the wins of Labour party leader Keir Starmer as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, and reformist leader Masoud Pezeshkian as Iran's new President-elect are reasons for subdued cheer for the left of centre ecosystem everywhere. The noticeable difference is that while Mr. Keir does not have to look over his shoulder frequently to a titular king, Mr. Pezeshkian has no such luxury as the religious head and supreme leader could be breathing down his neck. The results, on the whole, proclaim added strength to the common man.

Ayyasseri Raveendranath,
Aranmula, Kerala

It is a welcome change for Iran that a reformist has been chosen as the new President-elect. But as conservatives are dominant in the major institutions, the President-elect could have a rough road ahead.

J.P. Reddy,
Nalgonda, Telangana

Good initiative

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's initiative to hold parleys with his Telangana counterpart, A. Revanth Reddy, to sort out all issues on hold since the bifurcation of the unified State of Andhra Pradesh is heartening (Inside pages, "Naidu, Revanth vow to solve pending issues", July 7). Having committees with representation from both States is a sound idea.

C.V. Aravind,
Bengaluru

Corrections & Clarifications

Alapan Bandhyopadhyay is a former Chief Secretary and Adviser to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and not the Chief Secretary of West Bengal, as mentioned in a report, "₹2 lakh aid, job for kin of lynching victims in Bengal" ('In Brief', early editions, July 3, 2024).

A report, "Woman in Chopra flogging refuses to meet Bengal Governor" (July 3, 2024), said that the West Bengal Governor, C.V. Ananda Bose, "took a morning flight from Bagdogra to Siliguri..." It should have been a flight from New Delhi to Bagdogra.

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Law and order

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam government in Tamil Nadu appears to be slipping in governance ("11 persons held for T.N. BSP leader's murder", July 7). Unlike what it was under the Jayalalithaa regime, crime fighting and law and order appear to have taken a back seat now. The drug menace appears to be a major issue too.

Girija Venkataraman,
Chennai

The problem of special packages

R. Mohan

a former Indian Revenue Service officer

Coalition politics is back at the Union level in a substantial way. The Bharatiya Janata Party is dependent on the Janata Dal (United) of Bihar and the Telugu Desam Party of Andhra Pradesh for its parliamentary majority. This is in contrast to 2014 and 2019, when *de facto* single-party governments came to office. With single-party majority becoming a thing of the past, demand for State-specific discretionary grants, or 'special packages', are back with a bang in public discussion.

The positive aspect of single-party dominance being tempered by the presence of coalition partners that can act as a check if unitary trends surge cannot be underestimated. Nevertheless, this is the time to test the hypothesis that when single-party dominance at the Union level fades, federal tendencies bloom and when a single-party majority under a strong leader at the Union level prevails, federal tendencies wilt.

If a healthy federal structure is to be nurtured, the fiscal boundaries, principles of assignment of taxes, and the basis for grants have to be transparent and objective. A federal setup can be asymmetric in a country that is characterised by linguistic, cultural, and economic diversity. But issues of asymmetry should be addressed by means of constitutional provisions that have both transparency and stability.

The Constitution has provisions that address the issues of specific States, or States that have a special status with regard to certain matters mentioned in the Constitution. These provisions are covered, for instance, in Articles 371A to H (Article 370 for the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, of course, is abrogated).

Purely discretionary

On the contrary, special packages are purely discretionary. They may be need-based, but the need is not the proximate reason for granting a special package, which is an additional grant under Article 282, which falls under 'Miscellaneous Financial Provisions'. More often than not, they are the result of the bargaining power of some State-level political parties that can tilt the scales of parliamentary majority. What does this augur for the health of our federal set-up?

That the outcome of an election can determine the fiscal distribution of national resources to a State or States goes against the grain of fiscal federalism (or, more correctly, of federal finance). Some States may be justified in their demands for funds, but allocation has to be through the mechanism of the Finance Commission. The Commission is constituted by the President every five years or earlier to make recommendations regarding the distribution of a share of taxes collected by the Union to the States, and how this is to be distributed among the States, as per Article 280; and disbursement of grants to States in need of assistance, as provided in Article 275. The 16th Finance Commission, which is already in existence, cannot be bypassed solely on account of partisan political exigencies.

When the same political party is in power at the Union and State levels, it is called a 'double-engine sarkar. The main engine has lost the power to run on its own and the owners of smaller engines that are needed to pull the train along are making their own demands. While individual States may well need special packages, process is of the utmost importance. How have these events impacted the political and fiscal relations between the Union and the States?

That the outcome of an election can determine the fiscal distribution of national resources to a State or States goes against the grain of fiscal federalism

Federal tendencies

The first issue here is the extent to which our polity is federal. The Constitution has been famously described as having a quasi-federal framework. C.H. Alexandrowicz, however, disputed this description in his work *Constitutional Developments in India* (1957), stating that in situations other than an Emergency, it assumes a federal character. The Supreme Court has made the succinct observation that our polity is amphibian – it can assume unitary and federal characters depending on whether or not there is an Emergency under Articles 352 and 356 in force (*State of Rajasthan and Others v Union of India*, 1977).

Be that as it may, it is often argued that the prevailing political environment crucially determines whether federal tendencies bloom or wilt. Keeping this proposition in mind, the hypothesis stated above can be put to test.

How fiscal distribution is done is cardinal in the test of whether or not federalism is strong. In the recent past, some States raised concerns about their share in the divisible pool of Union taxes facing a decline. Tax distribution is formula-based, and it is for the 16th Finance Commission to address this issue and undertake the delicate task of balancing the interests of the States *inter se*, and with those of the Centre.

The focus here is on grants, in the disbursement of which scope for discretion is wider. In our constitutional framework, the primary task of recommending grants to States in need of assistance is that of the Finance Commission, until Parliament makes legislation in this regard.

But the fact now is that the flow of discretionary grants to the States through Article 282 have far overtaken (by almost a factor of four) that of the grants recommended by the Finance Commissions. Acceding to demands for special packages which are raised by State-based parties, holding the key to parliamentary majority, will weaken the foundations of fiscal federalism, as it will result in diverting national resources away from other States, which too may have pressing needs. If this is allowed to happen, we will see the paradox of federal tendencies wilting instead of blooming when single-party dominance fades.

Congress has no room for complacency

In the 2026 Assembly polls, the UDF could face a stronger BJP and LDF

STATE OF PLAY

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The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) delivered an impressive performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in Kerala. It won 18 seats – just one short of the 19 seats it had won in the 2019 elections – out of the total 20 seats.

In 2019, its success was attributed to the massive protest in Kerala against the Supreme Court order allowing women of all ages to enter the Lord Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala, as well as the candidacy of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Wayanad. This time, the strong anti-incumbency sentiment against the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) government, led by the Communist Party of India (Marxist), helped the UDF.

In 2019, the Congress leadership believed that the UDF would regain power in the Assembly polls in 2021. They assumed that anti-incumbency against the the LDF government would suffice for the coalition. However, this did not happen, largely because of the party's complacency.

On the other hand, the LDF won thanks to its various social security measures, its distribution of food kits through ration shops post-COVID-19, and the successful experiment of a rainbow coalition of 11 constituents. The Left made history by winning the 2021 Assembly polls in the State, disrupting the nearly four-decade alternation of power between the LDF and UDF.

Chalking out a plan

Though the Assembly elections are still two years away, the Congress has began to

chalk out a plan. The party has announced its national general secretary, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, as the candidate for the Wayanad by-election after her brother, Mr. Gandhi, vacated the seat to retain the Rae Bareli constituency. The by-election is expected to coincide with the by-polls in the Palakkad and Chelakkara Assembly seats, which were vacated by Shafi Parambil from the Congress and K. Radhakrishnan from the CPI (M), respectively, after their win in the Lok Sabha elections.

The UDF will have to contend not just with its traditional rivals, but also with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance, which has emerged as a formidable force in the Lok Sabha polls by securing 19.25% of the votes and winning the Thrissur constituency.

Shaken by its electoral debacle, the CPI(M) has began to carry out corrective measures both within the party and government. These rectifications may prompt Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who has faced criticism for his style of governance, to reshuffle the portfolios in Cabinet and introduce measures to monitor the bureaucracy.

The CPI(M) leadership has realised that its poor showing in the Lok Sabha elections stemmed primarily from the arrogant attitude of its party leaders. Other factors that contributed to its woes were the State's financial crisis, the LDF's failure in delivering existing welfare schemes and providing dearness allowance for teachers and government employees, as well as delays in paying lakhs of pensioners.

CPI(M) State unit secretary M.V. Govindan pointed to the influence of capitalist tendencies on party cadres as a factor contributing to the LDF's defeat. The serious allegations against the Chief Minister and his daughter, the frequent man-animal conflicts, and campus violence made matters worse for the party.

Moreover, the CPI(M)'s attempt to woo the Samastha Kerala Jem-iyyathul Ulama, a powerful body of Muslim scholars with ties to the Indian Union Muslim League, backfired. It not only failed to yield results but also led to an erosion of Hindu votes, particularly in south Kerala.

The Congress should be equally wary, as the BJP is set to tighten its grip in the State by focusing on 40 of the 140 Assembly seats. The induction of George Kurian from the Syro-Malabar community into the Modi Cabinet will certainly reinforce the BJP's efforts to appeal to Christians.

Drawing inspiration

It is also crucial for the UDF to recognise that most of its sitting MPs were elected not based on their performance, but as a consequence of a negative vote against the LDF government. The CPI(M) continues to retain a solid vote bank, and the Left ecosystem in Kerala has not withered away. To sustain momentum leading up to the 2026 Assembly polls, the UDF leadership needs to draw inspiration from the INDIA bloc at the national level and assert itself strongly as an opposition to the CPI(M) in Kerala.

Representation of women in the Lok Sabha

Not only did the Trinamool Congress field a large number of women but most of them also got elected

DATA POINT

Sanjay Kumar
Yashodhara Ranjan

Representation of women in the Lok Sabha has increased significantly since the first parliamentary election in 1952 **(Table 1)**. In the first Lok Sabha, there were 22 women MPs out of a total of 489, constituting a share of 4.5%. In 1957, of the 494 MPs, 27 were women (5.5%). In the 17th Lok Sabha, which had 543 MPs, 78 were women (14.4%). The 18th Lok Sabha constituted after the 2024 election has 74 women MPs out of a total of 543 (13.6%).

There was barely any difference among political parties between the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections when it came to fielding women candidates. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) gave a slightly higher proportion of tickets to women candidates in 2024 (15.7%) compared to 2019 (12.6%). The Congress fielded 41 women candidates in 2024 compared to 52 in 2019, but the share of women fielded was the same in both years (12.3%). This is because it contested fewer seats in 2024 compared to 2019. The Trinamool Congress fielded fewer candidates (12) too compared to 2019 (23) **(Table 2).**

The success rate of BJP women candidates declined to 44.9% in 2024 from 74.6% in 2019. The party fielded more women in 2024 compared to 2019. But the number of women who got elected in 2024 declined from 41 to 31. On the other hand, the success rate of Congress women candidates increased to 18.8% in 2024 from 11.5% in 2019. Of the 41 women candidates of the Congress, 13 got elected to the Lok Sabha in 2024. The Trinamool Congress fielded 12 women of which 11 got elected to the Lok Sabha (91.6% success rate). It is important to note that five of the 14 women contestants from the Samajwadi Party also got elected to the Lok Sabha **(Table 3).**

Women constituted 40.9% of all the Trinamool's MPs in 2019. In 2024, the share is 37.9%. This is much higher than any other political party. Women constitute 12.9% of the total number of BJP MPs in the current House, which is not very different from the 2019 share of 13.5%. Similarly, women MPs comprise 13.1% of all the Congress MPs in the current Lok Sabha election. Though the actual number of Congress MP was far less in 2019, the share was only marginally less at 11.5% **(Table 4).**

Many commentators have said that a large number of women voted for the BJP because they benefited from the party's welfare schemes. The National Election Study 2024 conducted by Loknitī-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) show that this is an overstatement. Women voters have voted for different parties in different States.

Among women voters in West Bengal, 53% voted for the Trinamool while only 33% voted for the BJP. This resulted in a stunning victory for the Trinamool. In Karnataka, 52% of the women voters voted for the Congress, while 46% voted for the BJP/National Democratic Alliance (NDA). In Bihar, 50% of the women voters voted for the NDA and only 37% voted for the INDIA bloc. In Haryana, 49% of women voters chose the Congress/INDIA while 42% voted for the BJP/NDA. In Madhya Pradesh, 60% of women voters chose the BJP compared to only 34% who choose the Congress. In Delhi, 57% of women voters chose the BJP, while 41% voted for INDIA. In Rajasthan, 55% of the women voters chose the BJP while only 39% chose the Congress. The women's vote was slightly tilted in favour of the INDIA bloc in Uttar Pradesh and Telangana, but marginally in favour of the NDA in Maharashtra.

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Women in the Lower House

The data for the tables were sourced from the Election Commission of India and the National Election Study (NES) 2024

Table 1: Representation of women from the 1st to the 18th Lok Sabha

LS	Women MPs	% Women MPs
1st	22	4.50%
2nd	27	5.47%
3rd	34	6.88%
4th	31	5.96%
5th	22	4.25%
6th	19	3.51%
7th	28	5.17%
8th	44	8.13%
9th	36	6.81%
10th	42	7.87%
11th	40	7.37%
12th	44	8.10%
13th	48	8.84%
14th	45	8.29%
15th	58	10.68%
16th	62	11.42%
17th	78	14.36%
18th	74	13.63%

Table 2: Party-wise proportion of women candidates in the Lok Sabha elections of 2019 and 2024

	2024		2019	
Party	Women	% Women	Women	% Women
BJP	69	15.7%	55	12.6%
Congress	41	12.3%	52	12.4%
Trinamool	12	25.5%	23	37.1%
SP	14	21.9%	6	16.2%
AAP	0	0.0%	3	8.6%
JD(U)	2	12.5%	2	11.8%
RJD	7	29.2%	3	14.3%
TDP	1	5.9%	3	12.0%
DMK	3	14.3%	2	8.7%
SHS(UBT)	2	9.5%	1	4.3%
BSP	38	7.8%	24	6.3%
CPI	2	6.7%	4	8.2%
CPI(M)	7	13.5%	10	14.5%

*Data for Maharashtra is for undivided Shiv Sena.
Source: Data compiled by authors from the Election Commission of India

Table 3: Party-wise success rate of women candidates in the Lok Sabha elections of 2019 and 2024

	2024			2019		
Party	Women candidates	Women who won	Success rate	Women candidates	Women who won	Success rate
BJP	69	31	44.9%	55	41	74.6%
Congress	41	13	18.8%	52	6	11.5%
Trinamool	12	11	91.6%	23	9	39.1%
SP	14	5	35.7%	6	0	0.0%
DMK	3	3	100.0%	2	2	100.0%
JD(U)	2	2	100.0%	2	1	50.0%
RJD	7	1	14.3%	3	0	0.0%
TDP	1	1	100.0%	3	0	0.0%

Table 4: Party-wise women elected in the Lok Sabha polls of 2019 and 2024

	2024		2019	
Party	Women MPs	% Women MPs	Women MPs	% Women MPs
BJP	31	12.9%	41	13.5%
Congress	13	13.1%	6	11.5%
Trinamool	11	37.9%	9	40.9%
SP	5	13.5%	0	0.0%
DMK	3	13.6%	2	8.7%
JD(U)	2	16.7%	1	6.3%
RJD	1	25.0%	0	0.0%
TDP	1	6.3%	0	0.0%

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 8, 1974

Ordinances expected to immobilise Rs. 500 crores

New Delhi, July 7: The two Ordinances promulgated by the President late last night to impound profits, D.A. and wage increases were expected to immobilise during the current year a total of Rs. 500 crores – Rs. 450 crores accruing from increases in dearness allowance payable to the employees of the Central and State Governments, public and private sector undertakings and Rs. 50 crores representing dividend payments from profits after taxation – Mr. B.D. Pande, Union Cabinet Secretary, said here to-day. Mr. Pande, who was briefing newsmen on the two Ordinances, said that the total estimated increases in dearness allowance during the current year would be Rs. 900 crores out of which 50 per cent would have to be credited to a special fund of the provident fund accounts of the employees while the estimated dividend payments that would be impounded would be around Rs. 50 crores. Mr. Pande was not in a position to indicate the amount by way of wage increases that would also be impounded into compulsory deposits. He said that the schemes would be operative from July 1. The two Ordinances have come after prolonged deliberation by the Union Government on how to combat the continuing rise in prices. Mr. Pande said that the Government would review the position if the measures taken under the Ordinances were found to have had no impact on the price situation.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 8, 1924

Trial by Jury

Lahore, July 8: An important decision has been reached by a full bench of the Lahore High Court consisting of Justice Broadway, Fforde and Campbell, with reference to trial by jury or assessors. An application was made on Monday by Mr. D'Connor; Bar-at-law; on behalf of a British soldier charged under Section 388 I.P.C., for causing grievious hurt to an Indian. The soldier was committed to Sessions for trial where a Jury was claimed. The Sessions Judge held the Jury could not be claimed and the High Court was moved for appeal. The Lordship decided that in cases of this nature, where a question of racial consideration arises, a jury consisting of majority of the defendant's countrymen can be claimed.

From Page One

Private investment plans slumped to 20-year low

Another factor for the slowdown could be that the last two years have seen high investment announcements that are yet to run their course.

"... A good monsoon and steady demand during the festival season which starts from the end of August and lasts till December would be the time when investment could increase at a faster pace," the Bank of Baroda report concluded.

Data on corporate bond issuances as well as bank credit flows for Q1 seem to corroborate the trend of slowing investment plans, the report noted. Corporate bond issues fell sharply from ₹2.86 lakh crore in the first quarter of 2023-24 to ₹1.73 lakh crore in Q1 this year, with over three-quarters raised by financial services players. Between April 1 and June 14, incremental bank credit was ₹2.78 lakh crore as against ₹3.78 lakh crore last year, with growth slipping to 1.7% from 2.5% last year.

Within the ₹44,000-odd crore investments announced over Q1, manufacturing outlays dominated with a 46.4% share followed almost evenly by electricity and services.

"Interestingly, over the period between June 2023 and June 2024, the fall in value of investment announcements was ₹7.4 lakh crore. Of this, the major dip was accounted for by the transport services sector at 61%," the report said, linking this to the airline industry's plans to buy new aircraft announced last year.

This pattern would be observed in the coming quarters too as these plans are unlikely to be restored until the earlier orders are executed fully, the bank's economists noted. "Another 20% of the decline of the order of around ₹1.5 lakh crore was in the electricity sector. In the past, most of the additions have been in the renewable space and here too a slowdown may be expected," the report reckoned.

Red flags raised over runaway silver imports from UAE through GIFT City

Concerns emerge over how imports cleared through GIFT City meet rules of origin requirements specified in India-UAE pact when importers from other ports fail to meet these; trade research body seeks probe into ties between export, import firms

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

In a major disruption for the bullion market, almost all of India's silver imports are now being handled by a few private players bringing the white metal from Dubai through the GIFT City exchange, which could cause significant revenue losses for the exchequer over time.

A trade research body has sought a probe into the relationships between export and import firms to identify and address any potential conflicts of interest, while warning that this silver market trend could extend to gold, platinum, and diamonds, further disrupting traditional import practices and market dynamics.

India's imports of gold and silver from the UAE had jumped 210% in 2023-24 to $10.7 billion. Total silver imports stood at $5.4 billion.

In May, 87% of India's global silver imports came from Dubai at a reduced 8% duty and were cleared through the GIFT City exchange in Gandhinagar, which has been clearing all silver imports from the UAE since December 2023. Imports from other countries and ports are virtually abandoned.

India's imports of gold and silver from the UAE had jumped 210% in 2023-24 to $10.7 billion. GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCKPHOTO

Earlier attempts by some banks to import silver from the UAE through other ports were questioned for not meeting rules of origin of the India-UAE free trade deal, think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) flagged in a report.

"The key concern is how the imports cleared through GIFT City meet the rules of origin requirements specified in the India-UAE CEPA [Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement] when importers from other ports fail to meet these," it noted.

India levies a 15% import duty on silver and only allows institutions nominated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to import the precious metal. However, the GIFT City exchange does not limit imports to RBI/DGFT-nominated agencies, registers private traders, and has found no rules of origin issues as flagged by customs elsewhere.

Under the CEPA signed in 2022, India has agreed to reduce the duty on silver imports to 0% over 10 years, subject to Dubai exporters meeting the rules of origin conditions.

"As the tariff becomes zero over the next eight years, all silver imports will likely come from the UAE, resulting in a revenue loss of ₹6,700 crore. This trade is driven solely by the tariff arbitrage offered by India," GTRI warned.

"The key concern is how imports cleared through GIFT City meet the rules of origin requirements specified in the India-UAE FTA when importers from other ports fail to meet these. This is strange as the Dubai-based suppliers may be the same in both cases. There is apprehension that imports from GIFT City might violate rules of origin conditions," GTRI chief Ajay Srivastava said.

GTRI has mooted a renegotiation of the CEPA terms to nullify the duty arbitrage, and more rigorous check on Dubai exporters' value addition claims by the GIFT City exchange and a "thorough investigation into the relationships between export and import firms to identify and address any potential conflicts of interest or familial ties".

It had also suggested restricting silver imports to nominated agencies authorised by the RBI and DGFT to minimise the risk of misdeclared imports.

"When banks like Yes Bank and RBL Bank attempted to import silver from the UAE at the concessional 8% duty through Chennai and Bengaluru ports, customs authorities demanded details on the rules of origin. The firms could not comply," the GTRI report said, adding that officials required proof that the imports met the CEPA conditions.

Pre-Budget consultations concluded, says Ministry

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has concluded consultations with various stakeholders, including representatives of industry and social sectors, as part of the Budget preparation exercise. Ms. Sitharaman will present her seventh Budget on July 23.

More than 120 invitees across 10 stakeholder groups, including experts and representatives from farmer associations and agriculture economists; trade unions; education and health sector; employment and skilling; MSME; trade and services; industry; economists; financial sector and capital markets; and infrastructure, energy and urban sector, participated in the meetings, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

President Droupadi Murmu earlier said that major economic decisions will be taken in the Budget session. "This Budget will be an effective document of the government's far-reaching policies and futuristic vision," she added.

'Take nation into confidence on border situation at LAC'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Citing news reports of a Chinese military base being built near Pangong Tso, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday attacked the Narendra Modi government demanding that the country be taken into confidence on the border situation with China.

Mr. Kharge shared a news report which said that the Chinese military had built bunkers to store weapons and fuel and hardened shelters for armoured vehicles in an area around Pangong Lake in eastern Ladakh.

Mr. Kharge asked, "How can China build a military base near Pangong Tso on land which was under Indian occupation until May 2020?"

He held the Modi government responsible for not maintaining the *status quo ante* at the LAC, with India losing possession of 26 patrolling points out of 65, including points in the Depsang Plains, Demchok and Gogra Hot Springs area.

Indian Army trucks near the Pangong Lake in Ladakh. AP

"The Indian National Congress once again reiterates its demand to take the nation into confidence on the border situation at the LAC. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our valiant soldiers," Mr. Kharge said in a post on X.

He said this was the fifth year of giving clean chits to China.

He cited Mr. Modi's interview in the run-up to the elections on April 10 to foreign press where, according to Mr. Kharge, the PM failed to put forth India's case strongly. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also in an interview said "China has not occupied any of our land", exposing the Modi government's "meek policy" towards China, he stated.

'Occupying territory'

Mr. Kharge underlined that on July 4, Mr. Jaishankar met his Chinese counterpart. During the meeting, he spoke about "respecting the LAC and ensuring peace and tranquillity in the border areas..."

But parallelly, Mr. Kharge said, "China continues to be belligerent, occupying our territory and constructing a military base at Sirijap, reportedly land that was under Indian control."

'Hindenburg gave Adani report to client before publishing'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The U.S. short-seller Hindenburg Research had shared an advance copy of its damning report against the Adani Group with New York-based hedge fund manager Mark Kingdon about two months before publishing it and profited from a deal to share spoils from share price movement, according to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The SEBI charged Hindenburg with making "unfair" profits from "collusion" to use "non-public" and "misleading" information and inducing "panic selling" in Adani Group stocks.

Hindenburg, in its response, has described the show-cause notice as an attempt to "silence and intimidate those who expose corruption and fraud perpetrated by the most powerful individuals in India", and revealed that the vehicle used to bet against Adani's flagship firm Adani Enterprises Ltd. belonged to Kotak Mahindra (International) Ltd., a Mauritius-based subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. Kotak Mahindra Bank has stated that Kingdon "never disclosed that they had any relationship with Hindenburg nor that they were acting on the basis of any price-sensitive information".

The SEBI charged Hindenburg with making unfair profits.

In its response, Kingdon Capital said it had got legal option that it could "enter into a research services agreement with a third-party firm that publicly releases short reports on companies, pursuant to which Kingdon Capital would be given a draft copy of the report before it is made publicly available and would have the opportunity to make investments before the report's public dissemination".

India is facing highest rate of joblessness in 45 years: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Opposition Congress on Sunday said demonetisation, a hastily rushed through Goods and Services Tax (GST), and rising imports from China were the main reasons for the decimation of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the country that provided employment to a huge number of people.

The party was reacting to a report by Citigroup, a multinational banking group headquartered in the U.S., that said India's unemployment challenge is a multi-faceted one and even 7% GDP growth might not be able to fulfil the jobs required in the country over the next decade.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said he had been sounding the alarm on the unemployment crisis for the past five years. "The crisis has been accentuated with the decimation of job-creating MSMEs through the 'Tughlakian demonetisation', a hastily rushed through GST, and rising imports from China," Mr. Ramesh said. "With his economic policies that favour only large conglomerates, the non-biological PM has created India's highest unemployment rate in 45 years," he added.

India has created 7.4 million jobs per year in this century.

Citi has suggested efforts could be made to fill one million Central government job vacancies to address the situation. It also recommended operationalisation of the four labour codes, and said labour reform could be a significant step towards ease of doing business.

Depending on employment data from the Centre's Periodic Labour Forced Surveys and the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, the report said a "holistic employment generation strategy" will be a combination of deploying scarce fiscal resources to support labour-intensive manufacturing for export purposes, bridging the skill gaps through more formal vocational training, improving availability of credit through credit guarantees to promote self-employment, a large-scale social housing project to boost construction jobs and operationalising the labour reforms to infuse formalisation and flexibility in labour markets.

The report said while the official unemployment rate is just 3.2%, details reflect serious issues around the quality of jobs and possible under-employment. It said agriculture accounts for 46% of all employment but its contribution to the GDP is less than 20%. "Both manufacturing and services sectors absorb lesser share of labour than their share in GDP. Share of formal sector in non-agriculture jobs is still only 25%," the report said. It added that only 21% of the labour force has a "salaried" job. "Share of employment in rural areas has remained at 67% between 2018 and 2023, indicating that the rural to urban migration process has stalled," it said.

Coffee-table book on over 1,200-year-old Samayapuram Mariamman temple released

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI

The Hindu Group of Publications has brought out a coffee-table book, *Samayapuram – The Sacred Seat of Shakti*.

The glossy book was placed at the feet of Goddess Mariamman on the premises of the Samayapuram temple near Tiruchi on Sunday to mark its release at a simple function.

Authored by Vrinda Ramanan, a qualified Bharatanatyam dancer and teacher, and J. Ramanan, a practising architect, the 190-page book describes every aspect associated with the Mother Goddess who reigns supreme in Samayapuram village.

From left: S. Kalyani, Joint Commissioner/Executive Officer, Arulmigu Samayapuram Mariamman Temple; Vrinda Ramanan, author; K. Manivasan, Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department; M. Pradeep Kumar, Collector, Tiruchi; J. Ramanan, author; and Sridhar Aranala, Vice-President, Sales and Distribution, The Hindu Group, at the launch of the book on Sunday. M. MOORTHY

Divided into different sections, the book, with attractive images, has interesting stories about Goddess Mariamman – the Mother Goddess, the ancient legends, the festive celebrations of the temple, pujas and *abhishekam* to the deity, the sacred *theerthams*, and extreme devotion exhibited by the devotees to Goddess Mariamman.

The temple, which is more than 1,200 years old, has a historical past with interesting legends that are woven around Goddess Mariamman, believed to be an incarnation of Goddess Durga, Mahakali, Adi Shakti, or Nishumbha Sudhini.

The first copy of the book was handed over to K. Manivasan, Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department, by Mr. Ramanan in the presence of Tiruchi Collector M. Pradeep Kumar; author Ms. Ramanan; Samayapuram temple Joint Commissioner/Executive Officer S. Kalyani; Sridhar Aranala, Vice-President, Sales and Distribution, The Hindu Group; and temple officials.

Priced at ₹2,999, the coffee-table book can be purchased online by visiting The Hindu Online Book Store – *https://publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/*

The launch offer of 20% is for a limited period.

Will question anyone including Bhole Baba if required, says panel

Press Trust of India
NOIDA

The judicial commission set up by the Uttar Pradesh government will speak to anyone required for its inquiry into the July 2 Hathras stampede, a probe panel member said on Sunday when asked if self-styled godman Bhole Baba will also be questioned.

The commission will also issue a public notice soon, asking local people and witnesses of the tragic incident to share any evidence related to the stampede, along with their statement, another member and chairperson of the panel retired Allahabad High Court judge Brijesh Kumar Shrivastava told presspersons in Hathras.

The three-member judicial commission on Sunday interacted with locals in Hathras.

The panel reached Hathras on Saturday and visited the stampede site near Phulrai village along National Highway 91.

"We have been mandated to file our inquiry report within two months," Mr. Shrivastava said on Saturday after reviewing the incident site. Hathras District Magistrate Ashish Kumar and Superintendent of Police Nipun Agarwal accompanied the team.

So far, nine people have been arrested in connection with the stampede.

Disciplinary action against police officers in Kolkata

Press Trust of India
KOLKATA

The Union Home Ministry has initiated disciplinary action against Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal and Kolkata Police Deputy Commissioner (DCP) Central Indira Mukherjee for allegedly maligning the office of the West Bengal Governor by promoting and spreading canards, an official said.

The action came after Governor C.V. Ananda Bose submitted a report.

In the report, he highlighted issues such as police officers preventing victims of post-poll violence from meeting the Governor despite his permission.

PM's visit to Moscow will see discussions on energy, trade

Putin to host private dinner and spend personal time with Modi at his *Dacha* in a special gesture ahead of formal talks on Tuesday; both leaders will visit an exhibition venue for Rosatom on nuclear power-related technology developments

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive here on Monday to a particularly warm and special welcome at a private dinner hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin at his *Dacha*, or estate, in the Moscow suburb of Novo-Ogaryovo.

The two leaders are meeting for the first time since 2022. It is Mr. Modi's first visit to Russia since the war in Ukraine began and his own first visit abroad for bilateral talks after being re-elected to office in June. The two leaders will be together for most of the events during the approximately 26-hour visit.

Mr. Modi will land on Monday afternoon and receive a ceremonial welcome at the Vanukovo airport and travel to his hotel across from the iconic Red Square that houses the Kremlin, where schoolchildren and members of the Indian community will greet him. The one-on-one dinner with Mr. Putin will reciprocate the dinner Mr. Modi had hosted for the Russian President during his visit to Delhi the last time an India-Russia Summit was held, in December 2021. It is expected to set the tone for formal talks the next day.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the sidelines of the SCO summit in Samarkand. FILE PHOTO

On Tuesday, Mr. Modi will address members of the Indian community at a reception for about 500 people at his hotel. He will then pay respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a memorial to Russian soldiers who had died in war. Mr. Modi will be joined by Mr. Putin for a visit to an exhibition venue for Rosatom on nuclear power-related technology developments, a key segment of bilateral ties, after which they will go into formal meetings and delegation level-talks at the Kremlin.

Sources aware of the planning said that the dinner at the *Dacha* on Monday is a special gesture by the Russian President, extended only to a few global leaders. For Mr. Putin, Mr. Modi's visit, close on the heels of his state visits to China and North Korea, meetings on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Astana last week, as well as hosting Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban a few days ago, adds to an effort to show that the while the "Western alliance" may wish to isolate him for the war in Ukraine, the "global majority", as the Kremlin refers to it, maintains close and personal ties with him.

When asked, Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar said that the scheduling of Mr. Modi's visit should be seen in the "bilateral context" alone. "Since there have been no annual summits since 2021, it was a priority to resume the bilateral summit mechanism, and both sides have been working towards this," Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu* at the Indian Embassy in Moscow on Sunday.

Recovering ground lost over three years will be at the top of the agenda of the 22nd Annual Summit.

Officials said that official talks and delegation-level talks on Tuesday will focus on addressing trade and banking challenges due to western sanctions, the possibility of more predictable pricing and long-term contracts for Indian energy imports in oil and LNG, opportunities for investment, as well as connectivity projects such as the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC), the Chennai-Vladivostok maritime route, and the North Sea corridor. Here too, sanctions against Russia as well as Iran are a factor and require discussion, and the two sides are expected to sign a separate agreement on cooperation in the Russian "Far East" region.

While no new defence procurement deals are on the anvil, Mr. Modi is expected to request expediting delayed deliveries. The issue of Indians in the Russian Army will feature, as Mr. Modi will press for early discharge or even a full waiver of the processes for those wishing to return.

Trade imbalance, Indians in Russian Army among key concerns for diaspora

Suhasini Haidar
MOSCOW

Tackling issues arising from the Ukraine war will be at the top of the agenda for many members of the Indian diaspora who will attend a community event that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address during his Moscow visit.

These include trade and payment imbalances as well as the danger to Indians recruited by the Russian military serving at the frontlines. Among the more than 500 invitees to the event to be held at a hotel on Tuesday morning will be businessmen, students and doctors, who form a part of the roughly 14,000-strong diaspora that works here, as well as 25,000-30,000 Indians estimated to be studying in Russia.

The post-Ukraine war situation should be a "golden era" for India-Russia relations, says Rameshwar Singh, who has lived in Russia for more than 40 years, and runs the NGO Disha. He says however, that the "vacuum" created by Western companies pulling out of the country has not yet been filled by Indian companies, and hopes the Modi-Putin meet will yield a breakthrough on the payment issues existing companies face.

> We have raised this bilaterally earlier ... requesting an early military discharge for the Indians. The issue could be raised in Prime Minister's meeting too
>
> **VINAY KUMAR**
> Indian Ambassador to Russia

Another issue for the diaspora is a possible strain in India-Russia ties over the problem of Indians being recruited by the Russian military, and sent to the warfront with Ukraine. With growing public pressure from their families in India for the Ministry of External Affairs to push for their early discharge, Indian Ambassador to Russia Vinay Kumar said that issue had become a "public concern" for India. "We have raised this bilaterally earlier including in the meeting with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, requesting an early military discharge for the Indians, many of whom have been misled or given false promises and found themselves in dangerous situations. The issue could be raised in PM's meeting too," he told *The Hindu*.

Beenish is one of dozens of students volunteering as interpreters during the PM's visit. She and other students who spoke to *The Hindu* say they hope that India-Russia strategic ties, that have seen a slowing in recent years will now pick up pace. "Russia is seeking more trusted partners like India. We hope to hear Mr. Modi speak about how bilateral ties will be further strengthened," she said.

J&K people fought against stone throwing, gun culture: MP

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

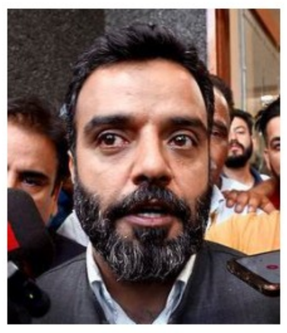
Srinagar MP and National Conference leader Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi says the Kashmir Valley had witnessed only three summers of stone throwing – in 2008, 2010, and 2016 – since Independence.

For nearly 72 years, he adds, there had been no such protest in the Valley, and people have fought against gun culture and militancy with their "own blood".

In an interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Mehdi said the huge voter turnout in Kashmir during the Lok Sabha election was a mandate against the abrogation of Article 370 and the incarceration of hundreds of youth by the Centre.

He said there would be an even better turnout in the Assembly election "to send a message to the rest of India that we do not accept the decisions this government has taken vis-à-vis J&K and we do not agree to be the second-class citizens of this country".

Mr. Mehdi said, "My priority will be to secure the release of over hundreds of men who are languishing in jails in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, etc. without any trial. Their families spend a lot to travel to these places, yet they are not allowed to meet their children. I am preparing a list of such youth and will present them in Parliament."


Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi

Asked about there being merit in the government's claim that since August 2019, the instances of stone throwing, violence and hartal have reduced, Mr. Mehdi countered, "You delete three years from 70-75 years and you can come to the conclusion that for a good 72 years, there was no stone throwing. We the people of J&K have fought against stone throwing, against the gun culture, we have given sacrifices. I lost my father, my father was assassinated because he believed in democracy and fought against the idea of gun. Peace will only return when people in J&K will have sense of empowerment and achievement. The way this regime has dealt with them, they feel a sense of defeat. It is a forced calm."

He said that after there was a rise in stone-throwing incidents in 2008 and 2010, the 2011-12 panchayat elections saw a voter turnout of over 80%.

Mr. Mehdi, in an inaugural speech in the Lok Sabha on June 26, urged Speaker Om Birla to ensure the sanctity of the House by restraining members from labelling Muslim members as "terrorists".

He said, "One of the priorities is to ensure the rights of the minorities and I don't only mean Muslims, it includes all minorities."

He stated that the BJP government had been in power in J&K since 2014 including as a coalition partner yet targeted attack against migrant workers had continued.

"It proves that everything is not fine. Militant and militancy continues to function, terrorists function at will, they choose the place and target, this government has been ruling since 2014, for the last 10 years. Questions need to be asked of them, why is this still continuing?" the Srinagar MP said.

Police register FIR against Mahua for X post on NCW chief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Sunday registered an FIR against Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra over her social media post about National Commission of Women chief Rekha Sharma.

The FIR was lodged two days after the NCW Joint Secretary A. Asholi Chalai wrote to Commissioner of Police Sanjay Arora, asking him to take action against Ms. Moitra for her X post on Thursday where she allegedly made an inappropriate comment about Ms. Sharma, when videos of her staff members holding an umbrella went viral. It was filmed when Ms. Sharma visited the spot in Hathras where many people died due to a stampede.

Taking cognisance of the complaint, an FIR under Section 79, Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita has been registered and investigation has been taken up, a senior official said.

HC to hear Kejriwal's plea for additional legal meetings today

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a plea by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, arrested in the Delhi excise scam cases, seeking additional meetings with his lawyers.

Mr. Kejriwal has challenged a trial court's July 1 order rejecting his application for directions to the prison authorities for granting two additional meetings in a week with his lawyers through video conferencing.

At present, he is allowed two meetings with his lawyers in a week.

In the plea before the trial court, Mr. Kejriwal said he was facing around 30 cases across the country and on the grounds of the right to a fair trial, he required two additional meetings with his lawyers.

The court had rejected the plea, saying counsel for the applicant had failed to convince it how the applicant was entitled to two additional meetings through video conferencing on the same grounds which had been discussed and dealt with in the earlier order.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener was arrested by the CBI on June 26 from the Tihar Jail.

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Regd. Office: No.536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018.
Website: www.cpcl.co.in Email ID: shankarp@cpcl.co.in, Phone No.: (044)24346807

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Record Date Notice - Final Dividend for the Year 2023-24

Pursuant to regulation 42 of SEBI LODR (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirement) Regulations, 2015, it is hereby informed that the company has fixed Friday, 19th July 2024 as the "Record Date" for the purpose of ascertaining the eligibility of members for payment of final dividend of Rs.55/- (Rupees Fifty-Five only) per equity share on the face value of Rs.10/- each on the equity shares of the company for the year FY 2023-24.

The final dividend, if approved by the members in the forthcoming AGM, will be paid to the eligible members within the stipulated period of 30 days from the date of AGM.

Members may note that the Income Tax Act, 1961, as amended by the Finance Act, 2020 mandates the dividends paid or distributed by a company is taxable in the hands of the members. The company shall therefore be required to deduct tax at source ("TDS") at the time of making the payment of dividend. In order to enable the company to determine the applicable TDS rate, members are required to submit the relevant documents on or before 06th August 2024.The detailed communication regarding TDS on dividend is provided on the link https://cpcl.co.in/investors/share-holder-information/investor-relations/.

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Sd/-
P. Shankar
Company Secretary

Place : Chennai
Dated : 07th July, 2024

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
NATIONAL AEROSPACE LABORATORIES
PB No. 1779, HAL Airport Road, Kodihalli,
Bengaluru - 560 017, India; www.nal.res.in
ISO: 9001:2015 Certified

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) for HANSA-3(NG) AIRCRAFT

PBMD/BDG/Hansa-3(NG)/EOI/2024-25/1 **JULY 8, 2024**

CSIR- National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL), Bengaluru, India is one of the premier institution established under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, an autonomous body of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi. CSIR-NAL is a high science & technology institution involved in aerospace research and development, providing technical expertise and consultancy services to various government bodies in India. It is also internationally known for its excellence in scientific research in aerospace engineering and other disciplines.

Hansa-3(NG) is a two-seater all-composite aircraft, designed and developed by CSIR-NAL for meeting the requirements of flying clubs to obtain pilot licenses (PPL/CPL) by their aspiring cadets. Hansa-3(NG) is equipped with state-of-the-art full glass cockpit display system, advanced fuel efficient engine for higher range and endurance with good handling quality, Bubble canopy for easy cockpit Ingress/Egress, better ergonomics, visibility, lower operating and maintenance cost.

Proposals are invited from established aircraft and allied engineering companies for Out-Licensing of **"HANSA-3(NG) Two Seater Trainer Aircraft for Manufacturing and Commercialization".** The eligible firms shall submit the proposal in the prescribed format, which can be obtained from NAL Website having following links:

- **CSIR-NAL portal, http://www.nal.res.in/en/tender**
- **CPP portal, https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app**

Last date for submission of Proposal: 31 October 2024.

The Director, CSIR-NAL, Bengaluru reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the prospective EOI responses in full or part thereof without assisging any reason.

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080-25086130 / 080-25086312

Sd/-
Head, PBMD, CSIR-NAL

Minister's remarks sparks row

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

A row has erupted over the remarks of Firhad Hakim, Mayor of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Minister where he is heard saying those not born in Islam were unfortunate.

The BJP has demanded action against the Minister.

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं. / e- Tender Notice No.CMG/C/CON/248710,248711 तिथि/ Date. 04.07.2024

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, "एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर (एसएलसी), तिरुचेंदूर एवं सतंकुलम तालुक, थूथुकुड़ी जिले में खंड भंडारण मैग्जीन (एसएसएम) सुविधा का निर्माण। (सिविल, पीएच विद्युत एवं एसी कार्य) (₹ 589 लाख)", "एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर, (एसएलसी), तिरूचेंदूर एवं सतनकुलम तालुक, थुथुकुड़ी जिला में चरण समुच्चयन सुविधा, एमएलपी ट्रैक, जेट विक्षेपक डक्ट (जेडीडी), प्रमोचन मंच टर्मिनल कक्ष (एलपीटीआर), बाह्य अग्नि शमन हेतु आरसीसी पैदलमार्ग निर्माण (सिविल, जन स्वास्थ्य, वातानुकूलन व यांत्रिक कार्य) (₹ 8067 लाख) के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **29.07.2024** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Construction of Segment Storage Magazine (SSM) Facility at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil, PH, Electrical & Mechanical works)" (₹ 589 Lakhs); "Construction of Stage Assembly Facility, MLP Track, Jet Deflector Duct (JDD), Launch Pad Terminal room (LPTR), RCC pedestal for External Fire fighting," at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil, PH, Electrical, AC & Mechanical works)" (₹ 8067 Lakhs)**; Tender documents can be downloaded up to **29.07.2024**, **14:30** hrs. Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / **Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR**

INBRIEF

Lakhs of devotees throng Puri to witness annual Rath Yatra

Amidst the sweltering heat and humidity, lakhs of devotees on Sunday thronged the coastal town of Puri in Odisha to witness the annual Rath Yatra. The rituals associated with the yatra are being performed over two days this year after 53 years. The last time this happened was in 1971. President Droupadi Murmu, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and ministerial colleagues, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, and former CM Naveen Patnaik reached the town to pay obeisance to the sibling deities - Lord Balabhadra, Lord Jagannath, and Devi Subhadra. Despite the police making elaborate arrangements to prevent a stampede-like situation, a devotee died in the rush.

Char Dham Yatra put on hold after IMD predicts heavy rain

The Char Dham Yatra was temporarily suspended on Sunday after the IMD predicted heavy to very heavy rain in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand on Sunday and Monday. In view of the IMD's prediction, all devotees are urged not to start for the Char Dham Yatra beyond Rishikesh on Sunday, Garhwal Commissioner Vinay Shankar Pandey said. Those who have already proceeded should wait wherever they are until the weather clears to resume their onward journey, he added. Heavy rain in various parts of the State have triggered landslips with the highway to Badrinath blocked at a number of points by rubble falling from the hills. PTI

NDRF team rescues 49 people stranded in rain in Thane

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) rescued 49 people who were stranded in two different resorts located next to each other at Vasind village in Shahapur taluka of Thane in Maharashtra on Sunday morning. NDRF inspector Susant Kumar Sethi led the operation with a team of 32 members. "All the 49 people were safe inside the two resorts. We used boats and life jackets to rescue them. The families were sent back to their respective homes safely," Mr. Sethi said. The rescued people were from Mumbai city and had booked the resorts for a weekend with their children, family and friends.

Surat building collapse toll reaches 7; builders booked

The death toll in Surat's building collapse rose to seven on Sunday. Over a dozen people were injured in the incident said to have been caused by poor quality construction. The dilapidated residential building, located in the Pal area, collapsed around 2.45 p.m. on Saturday. Surat Police Commissioner Anupam Singh Gehlot said the building was less than 10 years old. On April 26, the Surat Municipal Corporation issued notice to the building's owner to have it vacated owing to its dilapidated condition. The police have registered an FIR against the builders. The deceased are mostly migrant textile workers from Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Death toll in flood-hit Assam rises to 66; rivers still in spate

Over 22.7 lakh people, about 33% of them in Dhubri district bordering Bangladesh, remain affected; authorities in 28 districts on high alert as Brahmaputra, Barak rivers flow above the danger level

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Safe perch: Flood-affected villagers take shelter in makeshift camps on an embankment at Mayong village in Morigaon district of Assam on Sunday. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Eight people, including two children, died during the past 24 hours, taking the death toll in two waves of floods in Assam since May to 66.

The figure excludes the death of an eight-year-old boy in Guwahati, whose body was recovered on Sunday, three days after he was swept away in a storm-water drain. Two more people – a woman and her child – died in a rain-induced landslip near the Assam-Meghalaya boundary on Friday.

An update provided by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) on Sunday night said the eight people who drowned or were washed away since Saturday evening included three children.

"The authorities in 28 districts remain on high alert as the Brahmaputra, Barak, and other major rivers are flowing above the danger level. They have also been asked to provide adequate relief materials to 53,689 people across 269 relief camps," an ASDMA spokesperson said.

She said more than 22.74 lakh people remain affected, about 33% of them in western Assam's Dhubri district bordering Bangladesh.

Boy's body recovered

Rescue workers recovered the body of Avinash Sarkar in the city's Rajgarh locality, more than a kilometre from where he was swept away. His body was identified by his parents at the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital on Sunday morning.

The boy went missing about 11 p.m. on Thursday when he fell into a fast-flowing stormwater drain after his father, a motor mechanic, lost balance while trying to ascend a slushy incline on a two-wheeler. The boy was riding pillion on the two-wheeler.

Animals in peril

Officials in central-eastern Assam's Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve said the water level in the 1,307.49-sq. km rhino domain dipped but 15 animals died during the last 24 hours.

So far, 129 animals have died while trying to escape from the flooded park to the safety of the hills across National Highway 715 skirting its southern fringes. This included six rhinos and an otter pup.

The rest of the animals killed were all hog deer, two of them run over by vehicles moving at speeds beyond the limit of 40 km per hour.

Of the park's 233 anti-poaching camps, 68 remain flooded while four others had to be vacated by the forest guards.

Mumbai woman dies after being dragged for 100 metres by car

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Police personnel inspect the car outside the Worli police station on Sunday. PTI

In yet another crash caused by a speeding luxury car, a woman was killed in Mumbai early on Sunday morning when the car rammed the scooter by which she and her husband were going to a local spot to sell fish.

The police said the crash took place at 5.30 a.m. near Atria-The Millennium Mall on Dr. Annie Besant Road at Worli.

The deceased has been identified as Kaveri Pradeep Nakhwa, a resident of Koliwada area of Worli. Her husband, Pradeep Liladhar Nakhwa, 50, is undergoing treatment.

The Worli police have registered a case. "The car has been taken into custody. Driver of the car, Rajesh Shah, and the person who was with him at the time of the accident, Rajrishi Rajendra Singh Bidawat, have been detained for investigation," a police officer said.

After sourcing fish from the Sassoon dock in Colaba, the 45-year-old woman and her husband were heading back to their usual spot in Worli to sell fish. The car rammed their scooter and the rider lost control of the two-wheeler, a police officer said.

"Mr. Nakhwa fell off the scooter to another side, whereas his wife fell onto the bonnet of the car. The car continued to move, dragging the victim, Ms. Nakhwa, for about 100 metres before she was thrown on the road. Instead of stopping the car, the driver continued to drive and when the woman was thrown on the road, they fled the crime scene," the official said. "People at the accident spot rushed the victim to the Nair Hospital where she was declared brought dead."

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said the law was equal for everyone.

"I am talking to the police to take strict action. Anyone who is guilty will be prosecuted. The investigation will be legal and fair ... the police will not shield anyone," he said.

Bail cannot be withheld as a form of punishment, says SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has held that the right to bail of an accused cannot be withheld as a punishment irrespective of the nature of the crime.

Refusal to grant bail is an unjust punishment leading to "prisonisation" of an accused, who is innocent until proven guilty, the apex court reminded.

"If the state or any prosecuting agency, including the court concerned, has no wherewithal to provide or protect the fundamental right of an accused to have a speedy trial as enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution then the state or any other prosecuting agency should not oppose the plea for bail on the ground that the crime committed is serious. Article 21 of the Constitution applies irrespective of the nature of the crime," a Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Ujjal Bhuyan observed in a recent order.

The order was based on an appeal filed by Javed Gulam Nabi Shaikh against a Bombay High Court decision refusing him bail in a case under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA).

Rejects NIA request

The top court refused a request made by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to adjourn the matter and decided to give Shaikh his liberty back. The Bench noted that he has been languishing in prison as an undertrial for the past four years. It added that the trial court had so far not even been able to proceed to frame charges and the State of Maharashtra and the NIA have a total of 80 witnesses to examine in the case.

"Over a period of time, the trial courts and the High Courts have forgotten a very well settled principle of law that bail is not to be withheld as a punishment," the apex court underscored.

The prosecution case is that Shaikh was apprehended on February 9, 2020 with a bag of counterfeit notes of the denomination of ₹2,000. It was alleged that the consignment was smuggled from Pakistan to Mumbai.

Provisional answer key for CUET inaccurate: students

Ashna Butani
NEW DELHI

The NTA said students can challenge the provisional answer key by paying ₹200 a question by July 9

Hours after the National Testing Agency (NTA) released on Sunday the provisional answer key for the Common University Entrance Test for undergraduate courses (CUET-UG), students flagged issues in the answer key across subjects.

The NTA, in a notification, said students can challenge the provisional answer key by paying ₹200 a question by July 9.

"Challenges made by the candidates will be verified by a panel of subject experts. If the challenge of any candidate is found correct, the answer key will be revised and applied in the response of all the candidates accordingly. Based on the revised final answer key, the result will be prepared and declared. No individual candidate will be informed about the acceptance/non-acceptance of his/her challenge," it said.

Falak Ahuja, a student, said, "I had a score of 100 in psychology and legal studies in CBSE exams. But after checking the answer key in these subjects, my marks are negative because many questions are wrong. There are around 30 wrong answers in the subjects that I appeared for. The fee for challenging a question is too high."

Her mother, Astha Ahuja, Assistant Professor of Economics at Delhi University's Aryabhatta College, said, "Such mistakes have been there in previous years too... this is unfair on the students who were already stressed due to the delays."

For instance, a question in the legal studies paper asks under which Article of the Constitution did the Government of India enact the Environment Protection Act of 1986, in the wake of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. As per the NCERT books, the correct answer is Article 253 (option four on the question paper). However, the correct option as per the provisional answer key is Article 38 (option two).

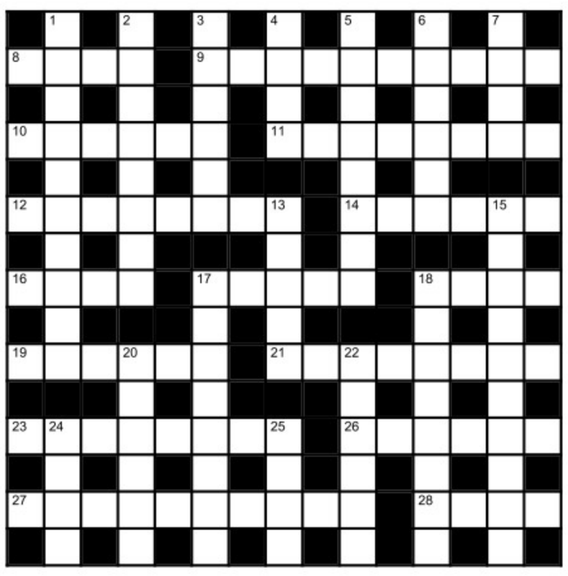
Similarly, in the computer science paper, the answer for the full form of ARPANET, which according to the books is Advanced Research Projects Agency Networks, is marked as Automatic Research Practical Application Network in the answer key.

TH CROSSWORD + 14221

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Suspend street entertainment due to lack of time (4)
9 Undeliverable mail from deceased landlord (4,6)
10 University Republican man is pressing (6)
11 What one gets when one dissolves salt in water? Answer! (8)
12 Understood what is done with pleats when wearing a sari (8)
14 Bantu composition covering red-head's headgear (6)
16 Feel absence of young lady (4)
17 Goes underwater and passes away around 5 (5)
18 Part of building overhead? (4)
19 Fruit with Queen Elizabeth's more hideous (6)
21 Find gramophone record's finished (8)
23 Backpack containing Pak snack mixture (8)
26 Operations cover spasm in study of sight and light (6)
27 Original part of program: Procure fish and start eating (6,4)
28 Payment tendered by tenant is torn (4)

Down

1 Movie fan and astronomer's common pursuit (10)
2 Addresses second chief of pizzeria on processed cheese (8)
3 Journalist authored it originally, to some extent (6)
4 Girl in glasses (4)
5 Brazilian president gets note in America and emits high-pitched rhythmic sound (8)
6 Motor part erratically rotates losing energy (6)
7 That lady's love for leading main (4)
13 Goliath slayer's father captures six (5)
15 A welfare measure: Perfume for a teenager? (10)
17 Drake's silly! Hoards silver in Knight times? (4,4)
18 Male birds and kangaroos rest badly (8)
20 Meaning "bring in" (6)
22 "Rain Man" screening (6)
24 No one gives out a quarter for midday (4)
25 Ken's king at present (4)

SUDOKU

4								
	5					8	2	
3			2		4	7		5
		6		9	3			
8	3						6	9
			4	2		5		
2		4	3		7			6
	1	3					4	
								2

No.SS6213 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	S		D		I		S		C		R		M	
I	N	R	I		N	E	P	A	L		E	X	A	M
	O		P		T		O		E		P		I	
T	W	E	L	V	E		I	S	A	B	E	L	L	A
			O		R		L		N		A			
C	O	M	M	E	N	C	E		S	A	T	U	R	N
	N		A				D		E				O	
S	T	E	T	S	O	N		P	R	O	D	U	C	T
	H					D		T				Y		K
L	E	E	W	A	Y		A	L	P	I	N	I	S	T
			R		S		N		O		A			
S	O	M	E	R	S	E	T		P	A	M	P	E	R
	P		N		E		R		E		I		A	
T	A	L	C		U	S	U	R	Y		T	A	R	N
	L		H		S		M		E		E		N	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	3	1	5	4	2	8	7	9
4	9	8	3	6	7	5	2	1
7	5	2	8	1	9	6	3	4
5	7	4	9	3	6	2	1	8
8	1	3	2	5	4	7	9	6
9	2	6	7	8	1	4	5	3
2	4	5	1	9	8	3	6	7
1	6	7	4	2	3	9	8	5
3	8	9	6	7	5	1	4	2

FAITH

Varadaraja's appearance

Kooratazhvan, in his Varadaraja Stava, describes the appearance of Lord Varadaraja of Kanchi, said Kazhiyur B. Devarajan in a discourse. Kooratazhvan says Lord Varadaraja's crown resembles a hill from which the sun rises. The crown indicates His supremacy.

The Sastras say that one should not perform one's ritual duties without the *urdhva pundra* (upward mark on the forehead). Doing one's ritual prescribed studies without an *urdhva pundra* will render them meaningless. The upward mark is to emphasise that we should aspire upwards for moksha, and not seek petty things. The Lord is the witness for our karmas. But He Himself has no karmas. Kooratazhvan observes that Lord Varadaraja too is wearing an *urdhva pundra*. At least in His vibhava avataras, He did perform ritual duties. But in His idol form, He does not do any karmas. Why then should Lord Varadaraja sport an *urdhva pundra*? His devotees sport such an upward mark, and it confers auspiciousness on them. It gives them joy. And the Lord likes what His bhakthas like. So, He also wears an *urdhva pundra*.

Varadaraja's ear ornaments touch His shoulders. Kooratazhvan wonders whether they are ornaments for His shoulders, or for His long tresses, which come down to His shoulders. He says they are for the enjoyment of bhaktas.

Better life insurance

COVERNOTE

For poorly thought-out life insurance purchase or buyer's remorse, some new regulatory measures will ease you out of it

K. Nitya Kalyani

As in most investment decisions, certainly personal investment decisions, and most certainly insurance within that, the basic principles are widely known, easily overlooked and seldom followed.

Investing in time

Before you invest money, invest your time. Insufficient research can lead to bad purchase decisions, things get messy and the cause may be lost. I believe we touched upon this in an earlier instalment of CoverNote and even quoted *Tirukkural* to that effect.

And then, there are wrong purchases because of mis-selling, misrepresentation of a life policy's benefits or costs, or selling an unsuitable policy.

Some measure of protection is already there under insurance regulations for this pitfall and there is always a wish for improvement.

IRDAI's Master Circular

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has issued a Master Circular on Life insurance in mid-June this year that compiles past circulars and also makes significant changes in the way life insurance is offered.

Let us see two of them in this instalment of CoverNote.

You have bought a policy and mention it to your brother-in-law.

As you explain it to him, it dawns on you that you have overlooked something in the whole scheme that does not suit you at all.

You can request for the policy to be cancelled and premium returned to you (with some deductions) within 15 days of receiving the policy document. This time for changing your mind, called the free-look period, has now been expanded to 30 days from the date of receipt of the policy document, a customer-friendly move that rescues you from continuing with a bad solution.

Surrender value

Another measure in the Master Circular is about the surrender value of a policy. The circular says that "insurers shall ensure reasonableness and value for money to all types of policyholders, including surrendering policyholders and continuing policyholders," while stating that the company itself should minimise surrender and lapsation by curbing mis-selling and misrepresentation.

It also says that the Special Surrender Value, the value the insurer offers, usually better than the guaranteed surrender value reflecting the accrued bonuses etc., 'shall ensure that such SSV shall be at least equal to the expected present value of the paid-up sum assured on all contingencies covered and paid-up future benefits (such as income benefits) and accrued/ vested benefits, duly allowing for survival benefits already paid.

This will now be payable after completion of first policy year provided one full year premium has been received and even earlier for policies with limited premium payment term of less than five years and single premium policies

Accordingly, some policies, even if surrendered within the first year, should fetch some surrender value and the premium you paid should not be a total washout, which is the situation now. An entire instalment of CoverNote was dedicated to options you should consider before surrendering a life insurance policy. Nevertheless, if surrender is your way to go, you have better options now.

While both these are useful measures and does underline the system's support of the policyholders' interests, I would like to go back to an oft-repeated piece of advice in CoverNote. Please do your research BEFORE you buy, or BEFORE you alienate your life insurance policy.

A far sighted investment to safeguard your loved ones certainly deserves your attention before taking the plunge rather than frantic efforts and bitterness after a mis-step.

(The writer is a business journalist specialising in insurance & corporate history)

ILLUSTRATION: SOUMYADIP SINHA

Factors to consider while availing joint home loan

Many borrowers voluntarily opt for joint home loans to avail benefits such as increased loan eligibility, shared liability, higher loan amount, and higher tax benefits.

HOME CREDIT

Ratan Chaudhary

When you, along with your spouse or any other family member purchase a property together as co-owners, any home loan taken for this acquisition must be a joint home loan, with all property co-owners becoming co-borrowers. Many borrowers also voluntarily opt for joint home loans to avail benefits like increased loan eligibility, higher loan amounts and higher tax benefits.

Here are some important factors that one needs to factor in while availing joint home loans.

Enhanced amount

Lenders consider several factors for evaluating the credit risk profile of home loan applicants. Chief among these are their income, credit score, EMI repayment capacity, age, occupation profile, employer's profile, etc.

Failing to match the criteria set for any of these factors can lead to loan rejection.

In such cases, looping in an earning family member having a good credit profile as a co-applicant would increase the chances of loan approval. As the co-applicant would also become equally responsible for the loan repayment, adding co-applicant(s) reduces the credit risk for the lenders. Similarly, as the income of the co-applicant(s) are factored in while evaluating the EMI affordability of a joint home loan application, adding a co-applicant can help in availing bigger loan amounts. On the contrary, one should note that if any of the co-applicants have poor credit score, it can adversely impact the chances of loan approval.

> Lenders usually have a predetermined list of relationships eligible for availing joint home loans such as immediate blood relatives or spouses

Eligibility conditions

Lenders usually have a predetermined list of relationships eligible for availing joint home loans. Most lenders allow spouses or immediate blood relatives like parents and children to become co-applicants in home loans.

Some lenders though may not allow siblings to become co-borrowers fearing future property disputes and other reasons. For instance, while some lenders may still approve joint home loans to brothers in case they happen to be the co-owners of the property, two sisters or a brother-sister pair are usually not allowed to become co-applicants. Unmarried partners are also mostly not allowed to avail joint home loans.

> Joint home loans enable borrowers to avail higher tax benefits as all the co-borrowers can independently avail tax benefits

Shared liability

The primary applicant and co-applicant(s) are equally liable for the loan repayment. In case of default in repayment, the lender will proceed against all the borrowers irrespective of their share in the property or their ratio of their repayment contribution. Unfortunate events like death or disability of a contributing co-applicant may adversely impact the ability to repay the loan. To avoid such situations, primary or key borrowers should opt for home loan insurance plans.

Tax benefits

Availing joint home loans allows borrowers to avail higher tax benefits as all the co-borrowers can independently avail tax benefits available under Section 80C (up to ₹1.5 lakh) and Section 24b (up to ₹2 lakh). For example, if you add a co-applicant for your home loan, contributing equally to the EMIs, the total amount of deductions available through your home loan will increase to ₹3 lakh and ₹4 lakh under Section 80C and Section 24b, respectively. However, for availing these tax benefits, co-applicant(s) have to be the co-owner of the property.

Moreover, the tax benefits can only be claimed according to the ratio of repayment contribution made by the primary and co-borrowers.

Thus, joint home loan borrowers should ideally factor in their income tax liabilities while deciding their repayment contribution, with those having higher tax liability opting for higher repayment contribution.

(The writer is Head of Home Loans Business, Paisabazaar)

Active funds: Why growth option is optimal

THINKINVESTOR

If you invest in growth option and sell the investment after a holding period of more than one year, you pay long term capital gains tax of 10% above ₹1 lakh

Venkatesh Bangaruswamy

If you were to invest in active equity funds for your core (goal-based) portfolios, you have a choice of investing in growth option or income distribution-cum-capital withdrawal (IDCW). In this article, we discuss why you should consider the growth option.

Investment efficiency

An active fund earns returns from two sources – capital appreciation and dividend income. It can choose to distribute the returns to you at periodic intervals or reinvest the gains in the market. If you were to choose the growth option, the fund will reinvest the gains. If you were to choose the IDCW option, the fund will distribute some of the returns to you at its discretion. You must consider two factors to decide between the two options. One, the distribution of IDCW is taxed at your marginal tax rate (30%). In contrast, if you invest in growth option and sell the investment after holding period of more than one year, you pay long term capital gains tax of 10% above ₹1 lakh.

Two, when you invest in active funds to achieve a life goal, you must be mindful of reinvestment risk. This is the risk that intermediate cash flows may have to be reinvested at a lower rate. Suppose you expect 12% pre-tax annual return on equity. Further, suppose the IDCW payments amount to 14%, then you must reinvest the dividends to the extent of 12%.

The actual calculation is much more involved and depends on the accumulated gains in the portfolio. But suffice it to understand that the responsibility of finding avenues to reinvest is on you; the portfolio manager will find avenues to reinvest in a growth option. You are still exposed to the risk in a growth option as the fund may not earn 12% on the reinvested gains. But that risk is significantly less because a professional money manager can find better opportunities in the market.

Conclusion

Investing in growth option still requires you to manage your investments. If the actual return on the fund is more than your expected return in any year, you must redeem some units to take out the excess return and invest the proceeds in a bank fixed deposit. This investment acts as a buffer and will come in handy when your fund investment earns lower-than-expected returns in any year. This argument also holds for your investments in index funds and ETFs.

(The author offers training programmes for individuals to manage their personal investments)

Bank Fixed Deposit Rates

Bank Name	Interest Rates (%) Highest Slab	1-year Tenure	3-year Tenure	5-year Tenure
Small Finance Banks				
AU Small Finance Bank	8.00	7.25	7.50	7.25
Equitas Small Finance Bank	8.50	8.20	8.00	7.25
ESAF Small Finance Bank	8.25	8.25	6.75	6.25
Jana Small Finance Bank	8.25	8.25	8.25	7.25
NorthEast Small Finance Bank	9.00	7.00	9.00	8.00
Suryoday Small Finance Bank	8.65	6.85	8.60	8.25
Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	8.25	8.25	7.20	7.20
Unity Small Finance Bank	9.00	7.85	8.15	8.15
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank	8.50	8.00	8.50	7.75
Private Sector Banks				
Axis Bank	7.20	6.70	7.10	7.00
Bandhan Bank	7.85	7.85	7.25	5.85
City Union Bank	7.25	7.00	6.50	6.25
CSB Bank	7.75	5.00	5.75	5.75
DBS Bank	7.50	7.00	6.50	6.50
DCB Bank	8.05	7.10	7.55	7.40
Federal Bank	7.40	6.80	7.00	6.60
HDFC Bank	7.25	6.60	7.00	7.00
ICICI Bank	7.20	6.70	7.00	7.00
IDFC First Bank	7.90	6.50	7.25	7.00
IndusInd Bank	7.75	7.75	7.25	7.25
Jammu & Kashmir Bank	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.50
Karur Vysya Bank	7.50	7.00	7.00	7.00
Karnataka Bank	7.25	7.10	6.50	6.50
Kotak Mahindra Bank	7.40	7.10	7.00	6.20
RBL Bank	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.10
SBM Bank India	7.75	7.05	7.30	7.75
South Indian Bank	7.25	6.70	6.70	6.00
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	7.50	7.00	6.50	6.50
YES Bank	7.20	6.70	7.10	7.00
Public Sector Banks				
Bank of Baroda	7.25	6.85	7.25	6.50
Bank of India	7.30	6.80	6.50	6.00
Bank of Maharashtra	7.25	6.75	6.50	6.50
Canara Bank	7.25	6.85	6.80	6.70
Central Bank of India	7.30	6.85	6.50	6.50
Indian Bank	7.25	6.10	6.25	6.25
Indian Overseas Bank	7.30	6.90	6.50	6.50
Punjab National Bank	7.25	6.75	7.00	6.50
Punjab & Sind Bank	7.30	6.30	6.00	6.00
State Bank of India	7.10	6.80	6.75	6.50
Union Bank of India	7.25	6.75	6.50	6.50

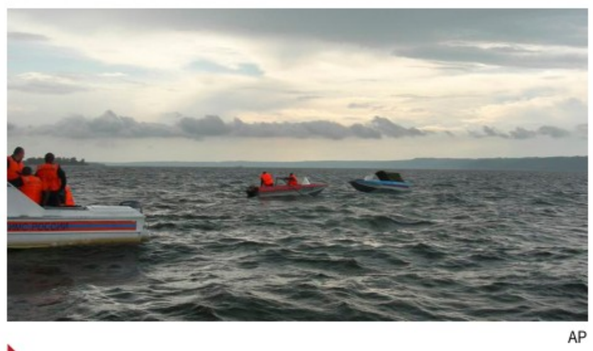
Home Loan Interest Rates

Name of Lender	Loan Amount (Rs.) Upto 30 lakh	Above 30 lakh & upto 75 lakh	Above 75 lakh
			(In %)
Public Sector Banks			
State Bank of India	8.50-9.85	8.50-9.85	8.50-9.85
Bank of Baroda	8.40-10.65	8.40-10.65	8.40-10.90
Union Bank of India	8.35-10.75	8.35-10.90	8.35-10.90
Punjab National Bank	8.45-10.25	8.40-10.15	8.40-10.15
Bank of India	8.40-10.85	8.40-10.85	8.40-10.85
Canara Bank	8.50-11.25	8.45-11.25	8.40-11.15
UCO Bank	8.45-10.30	8.45-10.30	8.45-10.30
Bank of Maharashtra	8.35-11.15	8.35-11.15	8.35-11.15
Punjab and Sind Bank	8.50-10.00	8.50-10.00	8.50-10.00
Indian Overseas Bank	8.40-10.60	8.40-10.60	8.40-10.60
Central Bank of India	8.45-9.80	8.45-9.80	8.45-9.80
Private Sector Banks			
Kotak Mahindra Bank	8.70*	8.70*	8.70*
ICICI Bank	8.75*	8.75*	8.75*
Axis Bank	8.75-13.30	8.75-13.30	8.75-9.65
HSBC Bank	8.50*	8.50*	8.50*
South Indian Bank	8.70-11.70	8.70-11.70	8.70-11.70
Karur Vysya Bank	9.00-11.05	9.00-11.05	9.00-11.05
Karnataka Bank	8.50-10.62	8.50-10.62	8.50-10.62
Federal Bank	8.80*	8.80*	8.80*
Dhanlaxmi Bank	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	8.60-9.95	8.60-9.95	8.60-9.95
Bandhan Bank	9.16-15.00	9.16-13.33	9.16-13.33
RBL Bank	8.90*	8.90*	8.90*
CSB Bank	10.73-12.58	10.73-12.58	10.73-12.58
HDFC Bank Ltd.	8.75*	8.75*	8.75*
City Union Bank	8.25-9.50	8.50-10.00	8.75-10.50
Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)			
LIC Housing Finance	8.50-10.35	8.50-10.55	8.50-10.75
Bajaj Housing Finance	8.50*	8.50*	8.50*
Tata Capital	8.75*	8.75*	8.75*
PNB Housing Finance	8.50-14.50	8.50-14.50	8.50-11.45
GIC Housing Finance	8.80*	8.80*	8.80*
SMFG India Home Finance	10.00*	10.00*	10.00*
Aditya Birla Capital	8.60*	8.60*	8.60*
ICICI Home Finance	9.20*	9.20*	9.20*
Godrej Housing Finance	8.55*	8.55*	8.55*

*Onwards Rates as on July 3 Source:Paisabazaar.com

MOSCOW

Seven children among 49 who had drowned in waters across Russia



AP

Seven children were among 49 people who drowned in waters across Russia on Saturday as scorching heat blankets large swathes of the country, the Ministry for Emergency Situations said. "A total of 65 incidents were registered on the country's water bodies over the past 24 hours — 49 people died," the Ministry said. REUTERS

MOSCOW

Russia claims to have captured another village in east Ukraine

GETTY IMAGES

Russia on Sunday said its forces had captured another village in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, the latest modest territorial gain for its advancing forces. Russian troops had "liberated the village of Chigari" in the Donetsk region, the Defence Ministry said in a daily briefing posted on social media. AFP

ISLAMABAD

$5-billion investment pledged for oil and gas exploration in Pakistan

AP

Pakistan is expected to get an investment of $5 billion over the next three years from local and international firms for the exploration and development of petroleum and gas reserves that will save the country's foreign exchange and provide relief to the common man. The announcement was made by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. PTI

LOS ANGELES

Jon Landau, Oscar-winning *Titanic* and *Avatar* producer, dies aged 63

AP

Jon Landau, the Oscar-winning producer who worked closely with director James Cameron on three of the biggest blockbusters of all time, *Titanic* and two *Avatar* films, has died. He was 63. No cause of death was given. His partnership with Cameron led to three Oscar nominations and a best picture win for *Titanic*. AP

French leftists win most seats in polls, Macron's team comes second

The far right, which dominated the first round of polls and was expected to lead the second round, comes third; but it increased the number of seats in parliament, and still fell short of a majority; turnout stood at 59.7%, the highest since 1981

Associated Press
PARIS

A coalition on the Left that came together unexpectedly ahead of France's snap elections won the most parliamentary seats in the vote, according to polling projections on Sunday. The surprise projections put President Emmanuel Macron's centrist alliance in second and the far right in third.

The lack of majority for any single alliance plunged France into political and economic turmoil. Final results are not expected until late Sunday or early Monday in the highly volatile snap election, which was called just four weeks ago in a huge gamble for Mr. Macron.

Final move: A woman casts her ballot at a polling station during the second round of polls in France on Sunday. REUTERS

Reflecting the high stakes, people turned out in large numbers not normally seen for a legislative election, after decades of deepening voter apathy for such votes and, for a growing number of French people, politics in general.

As of 5 p.m. local time, turnout was at 59.7%, according to France's Interior Ministry, the highest at that time in the voting day since 1981. During the first round, the nearly 67% turnout was the highest since 1997.

The deeply unpopular President lost control of parliament, according to the projections. Marine Le Pen's far-right drastically increased the number of seats it holds in parliament but fell far short of expectations.

France now faces the prospect of weeks of political machinations to determine who will be Prime Minister and lead the National Assembly. And Mr. Macron faces the prospect of leading the country alongside a Prime Minister opposed to most of his domestic policies.

'Immense relief'

French leftist leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon called the projections an "immense relief for a majority of people in our country" and he demanded the resignation of the Prime Minister.

The projections, if confirmed, plunge a pillar of the European Union and its second-largest economy into intense uncertainty, with no clarity about who might partner with President Emmanuel Macron as Prime Minister in governing France.

Israel targets Gaza school for second day, killing four

Agence France-Presse
GAZA STRIP

The civil defence agency in Hamas-run Gaza said a strike Sunday on a school sheltering displaced Palestinians killed at least four people, the second such Israeli attack in two days.

The Israeli military, which has long accused Palestinian militants of using schools and other civilian infrastructure, confirmed the strike "in the area of the school" in Gaza City.

It said in a statement the school complex was used as a militant hideout and housed "a Hamas weapons manufacturing facility".

The civil defence agency said Ihab al-Ghusain, the Hamas government's Deputy Labour Minister, was among those killed in the strike on the Holy Family school.

Tall cost: Officials said the Hamas government's Deputy Labour Minister was among those killed in the strike on the school. AFP

The strike came a day after a UN-run school in the central Nuseirat refugee camp was hit, in an attack that the Gaza Health Ministry said killed 16 persons and drew condemnation from the United Nations.

Hamas has repeatedly denied Israeli accusations that militants were hiding in civilian infrastructure.

The vast majority of the Gaza Strip's 2.4 million people have been displaced by the war, now in its 10th month, and many have taken shelter in UN-run schools across the besieged territory.

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, expressed outrage at the repeated attacks on its premises.

Iran's President-elect Pezeshkian to be sworn in next month

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iran's reformist Masoud Pezeshkian will be sworn in before parliament in early August as the Islamic Republic's ninth President.

"The swearing-in ceremony of the president will be held on August 4 or 5," said the official IRNA news agency, quoting a member of parliament's presiding board. "The President will have 15 days to present his proposed ministers to the parliament for a vote of confidence."

Iranian Presidents-elect are required to take an oath before parliament before officially taking office.

The swearing-in ceremony takes place after the President-elect receives an official endorsement by the Islamic republic's supreme leader. Iran's President is not head of state, and the ultimate authority rests with the supreme leader – a post held by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei for the last 35 years.

Masoud Pezeshkian

Mr. Pezeshkian won a run-off election on Friday against the ultraconservative Saeed Jalili to replace President Ebrahim Raisi who died in a helicopter crash in May.

Erdogan may invite Assad to Turkiye for reconciliation talks

Agence France-Presse
ISTANBUL

The move comes in the wake of riots against Syrian businesses in an Anatolian city

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday said he might invite his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad to Turkiye "at any moment", in a sign of reconciliation after the 2011 war broke ties between Ankara and Damascus.

Mr. Erdogan's comments come after tensions have mounted over the past week after a mob went on the rampage, vandalising businesses and properties owned by Syrians in a central Anatolian city.

Invite imminent

"We may send an invitation (to Assad) at any moment," Mr. Erdogan told journalists aboard a plane from Berlin.

Turkiye originally aimed to topple Mr. Assad's regime when the Syrian conflict erupted with the violent suppression of peaceful protesters in 2011 and backed rebels calling for his ouster.

But more recently, Ankara has shifted focus to preventing what Mr. Erdogan in 2019 dubbed a "terror corridor" from opening up in northern Syria. He has said he could reconsider ties with Mr. Assad as his government is working to ensure safe return of Syrian refugees.

62 killed and 90 injured in rain-related incidents in Nepal in the past four weeks

Agence France-Presse
KATHMANDU

At least 62 people were killed and 90 sustained injuries in rain-related incidents across Nepal over the past four weeks since the onset of the monsoon, according to Home Ministry on Sunday.

The primary causes of these rain-related deaths are landslips, floods, and lightning strikes, they said.

Of the fatalities, 34 people were killed by landslips, while 28 died in floods resulting from incessant rain.

Additionally, seven individuals are reported missing in connection with these natural calamities, the officials said.

No respite: People look towards a flooded area along the bank of the overflowing Bagmati river in Kathmandu on Sunday. REUTERS

The heavy rain and subsequent floods and landslips have caused significant property damage as well.

At least 121 houses have been inundated, and 82 have been damaged. The natural disasters have displaced a total of 1,058 households across the country.

PM's remark

In response to the crisis, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' has directed all state mechanisms to prioritise the protection of lives affected by monsoon floods, landslides, and inundations.

During a briefing at the Singha Durbar-based control room on Sunday, the Prime Minister instructed all state agencies to focus on the rescue and relief efforts for citizens impacted by these natural disasters.

IN THE COURT OF THE 38th ADDL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU CITY CCH-39

O.S.No. 2621/2009

PLAINTIFF: Nagaraja. A, S/o. Annayappa Aged abut 45 years Residing at No. Kadhirenahalli village, Uttarahalli Town, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore

- Vs -

DEFENDANTS: A. Mallesh and others

NOTICES TO THE PROPOSED DEFENDANT NO'S. 26, 30, 31, 32 & 33 U/O V RULE 20 C.P.C.1908 on IA29

PROPOSED DEFENDANT NO'S 26, 30, 31, 32 & 33

Prop Defendant No.26:- Sri R. Chandrashekar Naidu S/o Sri R. Rajagopala Naidu Aged about 47 years, R/o No.60, Mariyamma Temple Road, 1st Main Road, Gowdanapalya, Bangalore- 560 061

Prop Defendant No.30:- Smt. K. Lalitha Rao W/o Sri D. Nagaraja Rao Major, R/o No. 61/4, 1st main, 7th cross, Padmanabhanagar, Bangalore- 560 070

Prop Defendant No.31:- Sri A. V. Surendran S/o Sri Velayudam Major, R/o No. 59, Devegowda Block, Audugodi, Bangalore- 560 030

Represented by his G.P.A.Holder Smt, N.Usha Devi W/o Sri Sachidanada Swamy Aged about 63 years R/o No.145/3, Govindarajanagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560 040

& Also at

Smt. N. Usha Devi W/o Sri Sachidanada Swamy Aged about 63 years Presently residing at No. 668, 45th cross, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 082

Prop Defendant No.32

Smt. N. Usha Devi W/o Sri Sachidanada Swamy Aged about 63 years R/o No. 668, 45th cross, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 082

Prop Defendant No.33

Sri B.S. Yuvaraj S/o Sri Sachidanada swamy Aged about 37 years R/o No. 668, 45th cross, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 082

Whereas the Plaintiff above named have instituted the above suit before the **CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, BENGALURU CITY (CCH.NO-39)** against the defendants for Partition and Separate Possession and for other reliefs with respect to suit schedule property viz.,

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring 35 guntas in Survey Number 61/4 situated at Kadirenahalli village, Utharahalli Town, Bangalore South, Bangalore and bounded

On the East by: Jodidhar's property On the West by: Aggappa's property

On the North by: Kencham and Jodidhar's property & On the South by: Aggappa's property

The defendant No's 18 & 19 in the suit have filed an application (IA No.29) before the honble court seeking impleadment of the proposed defendants 23 to 35 as necessary and proper parties to the above suit.

You are the Proposed Defendant No. 26, 30, 31, 32 & 33 in the above suit, hereby Noticed/summoned/directed to appear before the honble **CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, BENGALURU CITY (CCH-39),** either in person or by Pleader duly instructed to appear on your behalf to defend you and the said suit is posted on **31-07-2024 At 11.00 a.m.**

Take suit summonses/notices that in default of your appearance on the said day of hearing the above suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand & seal of this Court on this the 1st day of July 2024 at Bengaluru.

By Order of the Court
Sd/-
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
CITY CIVIL COURT
BENGALURU-09

ADVOCATE FOR DEFENDANTS 18 & 19
Sri G.R. ANANTHARAM, Advocate,
No.87(Old), New No.13, 5th Main,
N.R.Colony, Bangalore-560 004 Ph: 080 26602375

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2)
4th Floor, Telephone House Builiding Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961.

RC No. 356/2023 IN OA 727/2018

Karnataka Bank Limited V/s M/s Veera Bio Industries & Ors

To:

(CH) Karnataka Bank Limited, Devaraj Urs Road Branch, No. 82-85, 1st Floor, D Devarajurs Road, Mysore, Karnataka - 570 001.
... Certificate Holder

Vs

(CD 1) M/s. Veera Bio Industries , Rep by its Partners, 1. Sri Vicky Ganapathy N. S. 2. Smt. Ranjitha Narayana, Plot No. 4, Belagola (Food) Industrial Area, Metagalli Village, Mysore, Karnataka.

(CD 2) Sri Vicky Ganapathy N. S, S/o. Sri Subbaiah, R/at. No. 180, Jeevan Mitra Apartment, 19th Block J. P. Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 078.

(CD 3) Smt. Ranjitha Narayana, W/o. Sri Rajesh R, R/at: SLV Manor, P-281, Door No. 202, 7th Cross, Ramanjaneya Nagar, Chikkalasandra, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 061. **... Certificate Debtors**

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2) in **OA /727/2018** an amount of **Rs.28,06,384.00** (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Six Thousands Three Hundred Eighty Four Only) along with pendentellite and future interest as per the RC w.e.f. 05.03.2018 till realization and costs of Rs.31005 (Rupees Thirty one thousand and five only) has become due against you Jointly and severally. 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under. 3.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. 4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, for further proceedings. 5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **08.11.2023**

Sd/- Recovery Officer
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT2)

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below: **"Rule 16** (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debt Recovery Officer, nor shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this Schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment".

भारत सरकार टकसाल, मुंबई
INDIA GOVERNMENT MINT, MUMBAI

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NOTICE

BOOKING OF " 20 years of Vibrant Gujarat summit" and "Birth Centenary of Shri Jawaharlal Darda" Commemorative Coin Sets

India Government Mint, Mumbai (A unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.) is pleased to notify booking of commemorative coin sets in Proof and Uncirculated varieties of following themes.

Theme	Proof (Rs.)	UNC (Rs.)
20 years of Vibrant Gujarat summit - Folder Packing	4170.00	3860.00
20 years of Vibrant Gujarat summit - Wooden Packing	4595.00	NA
Birth Centenary of Shri Jawaharlal Darda- Folder Packing	4170.00	3860.00
Birth Centenary of Shri Jawaharlal Darda- Wooden Packing	4595.00	NA

The booking period will be from 08.07.2024 the coin sets can be booked online on our website https://www.indiagovtmint.in. Alternately, the coin sets can be ordered offline by submitting an order form available on our website or visit our store at Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400001.

***50gms Silver Coin on Shree Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir, Ayodhya available for sale.**

For other detailed terms and conditions and online booking please visit customer corner section of our web site: **https://www.indiagovtmint.in**.

Follow us on : @SPMCILINDIA /SPMCILIndia /spmcilindia

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-tender Notice No. Y/E. 29/2024-25/25
Dated: 27.06.2024.

The undersigned, on behalf of President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of Work	Approx. Value
Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for SCADA at Raichur, Talli Saida Sahu, Saidapet & Santoshpur of Chikjajur (Excl) - Rayadurga (Excl) section of Mysuru division for 4 years.	Rs.48,61,681.28/-
Last date of submission of bid **upto 11:00 hrs. of 19.07.2024**	
For full details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**	

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction/ Mysuru
PUB/234/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

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BACKING THE CAPTAIN

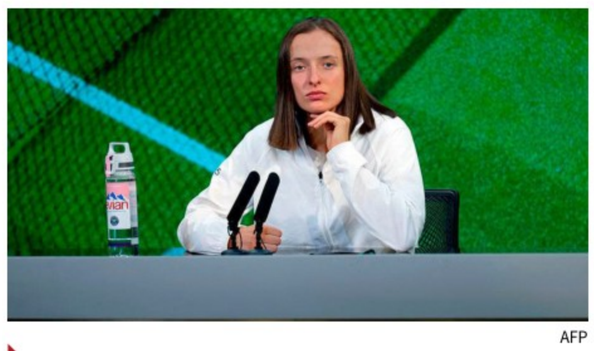
Rohit will win us the WTC Final and Champions Trophy: Shah

FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

T20 World Cup-winning skipper Rohit Sharma will continue to lead India in the ODI and Test formats, BCCI secretary Jay Shah said on Sunday. "The next stage is the WTC Final and the Champions Trophy. I have full faith in Rohit Sharma's captaincy and that we will be the champions in both these tournaments," Shah said.

DOWN AND OUT

Swiatek blames fatigue for shock third round exit

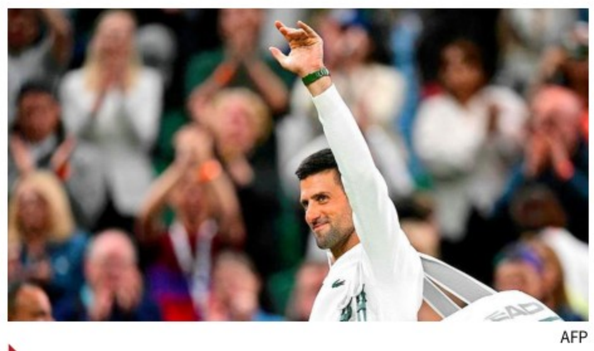


AFP

Iga Swiatek admitted she was running on empty as the exhausted World No. 1 suffered a shock third round defeat on Saturday. "I felt like my energy level went down little bit in the second set. I couldn't really get back up," she said. "My tank of really pushing myself to the limits became suddenly empty. I was kind of surprised."

DIFFERENT BALL GAME

Djokovic enjoys England Euros win at Centre Court

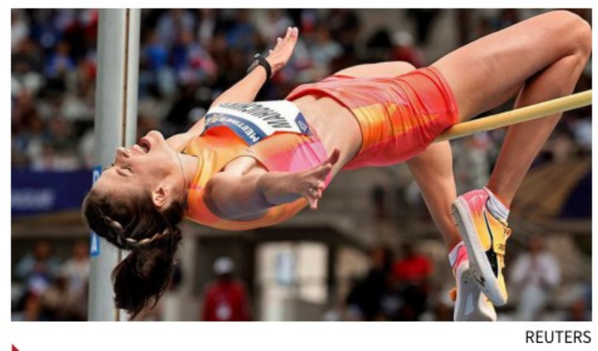


AFP

Novak Djokovic reached the Wimbledon fourth round after taking a break to help the Centre Court crowd celebrate England's Euro 2024 win over Switzerland in Germany. "I assumed it was a penalty shoot-out — it felt like for a set and a half the crowd really wanted to understand what the score is in the football match," said Djokovic.

SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

Ukraine's Mahuchikh sets new world women's high jump record



REUTERS

Yaroslava Mahuchikh broke one of track and field's longest-standing World record by setting a new mark in the women's high jump at the Diamond League meet in Paris on Sunday. The World champion cleared 2.10 metres, beating by one centimetre the previous record set by Bulgaria's Stefka Kostadinova in Rome in 1987.

Abhishek hits maiden ton as India levels the series

The young batter steals the show in an innings embellished with eight sixes and seven fours; Ruturaj also scores big with 77 in 47 balls; Mukesh and Avesh shine with three-fors

INDIA IN ZIMBABWE

Press Trust of India
HARARE

Abhishek Sharma announced his arrival on the big stage with a breathtaking 46-ball century as India pummelled Zimbabwe by a whopping 100 runs in the second T20I to restore parity in the five-game series.

This is India's biggest victory in terms of runs against Zimbabwe in T20Is. The young Indian side didn't carry the baggage of a shock-13-run defeat in the series-opener as India posted a mammoth 234 for two on a track where batting wasn't exactly easy.

The ask was already stiff and Indian bowlers got breakthroughs at regular intervals to bowl out Zimbabwe for 134 in 18.4 overs to set the record straight.

Pacers Mukesh Kumar (3/37) and Avesh Khan (3/15) removed the top-order inside the PowerPlay to kill the contest which became a formality after that.

The day, however, certainly belonged to Abhishek, who mixed grace and power in equal measure in an innings embellished with eight sixes and seven fours.

The SRH batter opened his international run account with a pulled six off off-spinner Brian Bennett, who had got the better of him in the first T20I.

Unforgiving: Southpaw Abhishek got the party started. AFP

Abhishek got a reprieve on 27 when Wellington Masakadza dropped a regulation skier off Luke Jongwe. There was no catching the youngster after that.

The shot that was most pleasing to the eye was his inside out six off rival skipper Sikandar Raza, lofting his off-break with the turn over extra cover boundary. If that was elegance personified, the manner in which he muscled left-arm spinner Masakadza into the orbit with back-to-back sixes was a testimony to his brute power.

Abhishek raised his milestone hundred when he guided a wayward full-toss on leg-stump behind the square for a maximum before being dismissed off the very next delivery.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Shubman Gill c Bennett b Muzarabani 2 *(4b)*, Abhishek Sharma c Myers b Masakadza 100 *(47b, 7x4, 8x6)*, Ruturaj Gaikwad (not out) 77 *(47b, 11x4, 1x6)*, Rinku Singh (not out) 48 *(22b, 2x4, 5x6)*; Extras (w-7): 7; Total (for two wkts. in 20 overs): 234.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-10 (Gill, 1.2 overs), 2-147 (Abhishek, 13.6).

ZIMBABWE BOWLING
Bennett 2-0-22-0, Muzarabani 4-1-30-1, Chatara 4-0-38-0, Raza 3-0-34-0, Jongwe 4-0-53-0, Myers 1-0-28-0, Masakadza 2-0-29-1.

ZIMBABWE
Innocent Kaia b Mukesh 4 *(3b, 1x4)*, Wessly Madhevere b Bishnoi 43 *(39b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Brian Bennett b Mukesh 26 *(9b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Dion Myers c Rinku b Avesh 0 *(1b)*, Sikandar Raza c Jurel b Avesh 4 *(4b, 1x4)*, Johnathan Campbell c Bishnoi b Washington 10 *(18b)*, Clive Madande lbw b Bishnoi 0 *(4b)*, Wellington Masakadza run out 1 *(3b)*, Luke Jongwe c Ruturaj b Mukesh 33 *(26b, 4x4)*, Blessing Muzarabani c Washington b Avesh 2 *(4b)*, Tendai Chatara (not out) 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-8, nb-1): 11; Total (in 18.4 overs): 134.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-4 (Kaia, 0.3), 2-40 (Bennett, 2.6), 3-41 (Myers, 3.2), 4-46 (Raza, 3.6), 5-72 (Campbell, 9.4), 6-73 (Madande, 10.3), 7-76 (Masakadza, 11.1), 8-117 (Madhevere, 16.3), 9-123 (Muzarabani, 17.4).

INDIA BOWLING
Mukesh 3.4-0-37-3, Abhishek 3-0-36-0, Avesh 3-0-15-3, Bishnoi 4-0-11-2, Washington 4-0-28-1, Parag 1-0-5-0.

Toss: India. **PoM:** Abhishek.
India won by 100 runs to level the five-match series 1-1.
Third T20I: July 10, Harare, 4.30 p.m. IST

Alcaraz overcomes stutter to beat Humbert, makes quarterfinals

WIMBLEDON

N. Sudarshan
LONDON

The 'Middle Sunday' holiday at Wimbledon was delightfully anachronistic. The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club thought that the break was necessary to allow the pristine grass courts a breather. But many saw it as an extravagance when sports worldwide were trying to cram in as much action as possible.

But from 2022, the recess has ceased to exist, owing to "advances in grass technology and maintenance." And with that went the famed 'Manic Monday' when all 16 singles fourth-round matches would be held at one go. Instead of a single-day barrage, the excellence was to be evenly spread out over two days.

At the 2024 edition, this responsibility first fell to defending champion Carlos Alcaraz and 16th seed Ugo Humbert. The duo passed the test – not quite with flying colours, but good enough to keep the capacity crowd riveted – before Alcaraz came through 6-3, 6-4, 1-6, 7-5.

On Sunday, the Centre Court alternatively shimmered under the sunlight that the translucent roof allowed and trembled when thunderous rain badgered the canopy. The tennis mimicked it. Alcaraz drifted in and out of the contest, in line with his recent form, and so did Humbert, who was in the fourth round for the first time since his debut performance in 2019.

See-saw: Alcaraz drifted in and out of the contest, in line with his recent form, but pulled through. REUTERS

The two spent the first four games sizing up each other – Humbert attempting to dictate with his serve and Alcaraz trying to slice and dice his way through. The Spaniard stepped it up midway, breaking Humbert 3-2, and came back from 0-30 down to hold 4-2. Another break in the ninth game, courtesy a splendid backhand winner and an inch-perfect inside-out forehand, gave Alcaraz the set.

The second stanza was as up and down. Alcaraz managed to erase four break-point opportunities in the fifth game before breaking Humbert in the 10th to take a 2-0 lead. The set-point was particularly vivid, for Alcaraz ran everything down and even did a split to retrieve a ball. It broke Humbert's resolve as he sent an easy volley out.

Humbert took a time-out and by the time he stepped back on to the court, Alcaraz was ready to serve. But the 21-year-old soon realised that such urgency was misplaced. Humbert, who has a big grass-court title to his name (Halle, 2021), showcased his full repertoire – with the one-two punch and the immaculate drop volley standing out – to take the set 6-1.

In the fourth, both players were nervous wrecks, trading breaks twice in the first six games. At 3-4, Humbert had Alcaraz at 0-40 but let it slip again. At 5-5, Alcaraz made the play with a drop-shot winner and a fine forehand. Humbert wilted, dumping an easy smash long and misjudging an Alcaraz forehand to get broken. A clean hold from the three-time Slam winner that concluded with a vicious sliding service winner brought the curtain down.

TOP RESULTS

Men: Fourth round: 3-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 16-Humbert (Fra) 6-3, 6-4, 1-6, 7-5. 1-Sinner (Ita) bt 14-Shelton (USA) 6-2, 6-3, 7-6(11); 5-Medvedev (Rus) bt 10- Dimitrov (Bul) 5-3, ret.

Third round: 9-de Minaur (Aus) bt Pouille (Fra) w/o; 25-Musetti (Ita) bt Comesana (Arg) 6-2, 6-7(4), 7-6(3), 6-3; 15-Rune (Den) bt Halys (Fra) 1-6, 6-7(4), 6-4, 7-6(4), 6-1; 13-Fritz (USA) bt Tabilo (Chi) 7-6(3), 6-3, 7-5; 2-Djokovic (Srb) bt Popyrin (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6(3).

Doubles: Second round: Jebens & Frantzen (Ger) bt 2-Bopanna (Ind) & Ebden (Aus) 6-3, 7-6(4).

Women: Fourth Round: 7-Paolini (Ita) bt 12-Keys (USA) 6-3, 6-7(6), 5-5, ret.; Vekic (Cro) bt Badosa (Esp) 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; Sun (NZ) bt Raducanu (GBr) 6-2, 5-7, 6-2.

Third round: Wang (Chn) bt Dart (GBr) 2-6, 7-5, 6-3; 4-Rybakina (Kaz) bt Wozniacki (Den) 6-0, 6-1; 11-Collins (USA) bt Haddad Maia (Bra) 6-4, 6-4.

Rain forces calling off after South Africa scores 177

SA IN INDIA

Lavanya L
CHENNAI

South African captain Laura Wolvaardt has a go-to phrase – 'Cricket's a funny game.' It was a sentiment that perfectly summed up the washed out second T20I between India and South Africa at the MAC Stadium here on Sunday.

Weather forecasts warned of heavy rain and thunderstorms coming the coastal city's way. The drizzle that delayed proceedings by 15 minutes at the start of play would not have been enough to pause proceedings had play begun. Cricket is a funny game, until it isn't.

India went in with four major tweaks to the lineup – Uma Chetry for a concussed Richa Ghosh, Shreyanka Patil for Asha Sobhana, Arundhati Reddy for Renuka Singh, S. Sajana for D. Hemalatha. India would go on to give a better account of themselves on the field.

Put in to bat, Wolvaardt and Tazmin Brits got off to a fluent start, bringing up South Africa's fifty in just the fifth over. Brits was questioned aplenty by Sajana in the second over. A stumping appeal which caught Brits well out of her crease spelt trouble for the opener but replays found debutant keeper Uma's gloves slightly ahead of the wicket before collection. Brits survived.

Wolvaardt once again played chief aggressor, mauling Arundhati for 15 runs off her first over of the day. Pooja Vastrakar got the day's first breakthrough, with the skipper holing out to Radha Yadav at point.

Marizanne Kapp continued from where she left off in the first game, smacking two boundaries each off Radha and Pooja.

A spin choke on the runs by Deepti Sharma and Shreyanka Patil forced Kapp to try and go big off Deepti in the 9th over, but the ball went straight to Sajana at mid-off.

Brits persisted, getting to her second fifty on the trot, a welcome flood of runs for someone working her way out of an injury layoff.

There was redemption for Uma too as she stumped Brits off Deepti's bowling in the same way she did earlier in this game, except this time, the gloves were well behind the wicket. Radha caught Chloe Tryon off her own bowling soon after.

Anneke Bosch and Nadine de Klerk then stepped up the scoring, with 33 runs coming off the next 18 balls. But the Proteas lost both batters off two consecutive balls.

Annerie Dercksen was dropped by Jemimah Rodrigues by the ropes at deep midwicket in the last over and went on to plump up the Proteas' score by 12 more runs to set India a 178-run target. Showers delayed India's chase and eventually washed out the game.

Star performers: Deepti took two wickets while Brits ensured South Africa got off to a flier. R. RAGU

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA
Laura Wolvaardt c Radha b Pooja 22 *(12b, 3x4)*, Tazmin Brits st. Uma b Deepti 52 *(39b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Marizanne Kapp c Sajana b Deepti 20 *(14b, 3x4)*, Anneke Bosch b Shreyanka 40 *(32b, 6x4)*, Chloe Tryon c & b Radha 12 *(10b, 2x4)*, Nadine de Klerk c Sajana b Pooja 14 *(9b, 2x4)*, Annerie Dercksen (not out) 12 *(3b, 3x4)*, Eliz-Mari Marx (not out) 1 *(2b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-1, w-1, nb-1): 4; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 177.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-43 (Wolvaardt, 4.1 overs), 2-75 (Kapp, 8.1), 3-113 (Brits, 13.4), 4-131 (Tryon, 15.6), 5-164 (Bosch, 18.6), 6-164 (de Klerk, 19.1).

INDIA BOWLING
Pooja 4-0-37-2, Sajana 1-0-13-0, Arundhati 4-0-37-0, Shreyanka 4-0-37-1, Radha 3-0-31-1, Deepti 4-0-20-2.

Toss: India. No Result.
South Africa leads the series 1-0.
Third and final T20I: July 9, Chennai, 7 p.m.

Netherlands mounts a stirring comeback

UEFA EURO2024 GERMANY

Reuters
BERLIN

An own goal by Mert Muldur completed a Netherlands comeback as it beat Turkey 2-1 on Saturday to book a semifinal meeting with England in Dortmund.

Turkey took the lead in the 35th minute after the Dutch failed to clear a corner, leaving Arda Guler to cross perfectly to the back post with his right foot for defender Samet Akaydin to head home.

Guler went close to adding a second early in the second half when he hit the post with a free kick.

It was to prove a costly miss when Dutch defender Stefan de Vrij equalised with a powerful header in the 70th minute.

The results: Quarterfinals: Netherlands 2 (De Vrij 70, Muldur 76-og) bt Turkiye 1 (Akaydin 35).

Heartbreaker: Turkiye's Muldur, right, scores an own to hand the Netherlands the win. AP

INBRIEF

Sitwala, Anupama win Asian billiards and snooker crowns

India's Dhruv Sitwala and Anupama Ramachandran clinched the men's Asian billards and women's snooker titles in the Asian championships in Riyadh recently.

The results (finals): Men: Billiards: Dhruv Sitwala bt Pankaj Advani 5-2 (103(103)-0, 100-36, 2-101(82), 11-100(60), 100-64, 101 (101)-23, 100(62)-0).
Women: Snooker: Anupama Ramachandran bt Panchaya Channoi (Tha) 3-1 (18-72, 81(54)-1, 61-51, 61-40).

Abhay wins two titles in Asian doubles squash

India won two titles in the Asian doubles squash championships, which concluded at Johor (Malaysia) on Sunday with Abhay Singh recording a double.

The results (finals): Men: Abhay & Velavan Senthilkumar bt Ong Sai Hung & Syafiq Kamal (Mas) 11-4, 11-5.
Mixed: Abhay & Joshna Chinappa bt Tong Tsz Wing & Tang Ming Hong (HK) 11-8, 10-11, 11-5.

Uruguay shades Brazil via penalty shoot-out

Uruguay beat Brazil on penalties (4-2) to reach the semifinals of Copa America after an ugly game ended goalless on Saturday. Uruguay, which finished with ten men after Nahitan Nandez was sent off in the 74th minute, will face Colombia in the semifinal on Wednesday. Colombia, now unbeaten in 27 games, beat Panama 5-0 in the other quarterfinal earlier in Arizona.

The results: Colombia 5 (Cordoba 8, Rodriguez 15-pen, Diaz 41, Rios 70, Borja 90+4-pen) bt Panama 0; Uruguay 0 drew with Brazil 0 (Uruguay won 4-2 on penalties).

Sable breaks his own National steeplechase record

Olympics-bound Avinash Sable on Sunday broke his own 3000m steeplechase National record while finishing sixth at the Paris Diamond League, clocking 8 minutes and 9.91 seconds. He bettered the earlier time of 8:11.20, set in 2022. In the javelin, Kishore Jena finished eighth with 78.10m.

Turgis pedals to victory in stage nine of Tour de France

France's Anthony Turgis won the ninth stage of the Tour de France on Sunday, a 199-km ride beginning and ending in Troyes, while Slovenian Tadej Pogacar retained the overall leader's yellow jersey.

Rajawat goes down in the semifinals of Canada Open

India's campaign at the Canada Open Super 500 badminton tournament at Calgary ended after Priyanshu Rajawat suffered a straight-game loss to France's Alex Lanier in the men's singles semifinals. World No. 39 Rajawat went down 21-17, 21-10 to Lanier, ranked 37th, in 45 minutes.

LIVE TELECAST

Wimbledon: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m. onwards
TNPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

Sunil Chhetri now fully focused on delivering for Bengaluru FC

The now retired India international is chuffed that his pal Kohli and the Indian cricket team achieved glory in the T20 World Cup

Back to business: Chhetri says he will continue to play for BFC as long as he brings value to the team. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

FOOTBALL

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Having retired from international football, Sunil Chhetri's focus now turns to representing his club, Bengaluru FC.

Chhetri's status as fan favourite remains undiminished, as he received the loudest cheers in the club's open training session here on Sunday. The 39-year-old did not put a timeline on when he will call time on his club career. He stated that he will continue to play for as long as he brings value to the team.

"A lot depends on what value I bring to the team. That is a very important criteria. The life I have lived with this football club – BFC is my club. I do not want to be here if I don't add value. I want to give my very best to this team," Chhetri said. "And after that, I'll be cheering for the boys from up there," Chhetri said, pointing to the spectator stands.

Chhetri was happy that his good friend Virat Kohli and the Indian cricket team fulfilled a dream by winning the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

"I love the fact that he (Kohli) won the tournament. It was long overdue. I know that he genuinely wanted to win it. To see the tears, as a sportsperson myself, I understood the emotions," Chhetri said.

Like all India fans, Chhetri's heart was in his mouth when David Miller nearly smacked a maximum in the last over of the final.

"When Miller hit the ball, we all thought it was going for six. What a catch by Suryakumar (Yadav)! It is a fine margin – if that had gone for six, who knows what would have happened. Kudos to the whole team," Chhetri said.

Chhetri remarked that BFC's 10th place finish in ISL 2023-24 was among the worst in the club's history. There is a strong desire to get the club back to winning ways, Chhetri said.

"The message from the head coach (Gerard Zaragoza) is very clear. He wants us to win every day. Firstly, we have to be at our best in training. There is a lot of competition in the team, so the coach made it very clear that everyone has to work hard to grab their places in the side. This creates a healthy atmosphere," Chhetri added.

Team now packed with leaders: BFC coach Zaragoza

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Rahul Bheke and Lalthuammawia Ralte were among the six new players unveiled by Bengaluru FC (BFC) at an open training session held at Bangalore Football Stadium here on Sunday.

Spanish attacker Edgar Mendez, Spanish midfielder Alberto Noguera, Argentine striker Jorge Pereyra Diaz and former Punjab FC left-back Mohamed Salah are the other new signings.

BFC, which finished a disappointing tenth in the previous ISL season, will hope that these additions gives the team a boost.

Bheke and Ralte have represented BFC in earlier seasons. The former returns to BFC after a successful stint at Mumbai City FC.

Mendez, who arrived to training in a chariot, has made over 150 *La Liga* appearances with Almeria, Granada and Alaves.

Catching up: Zaragoza shares a light moment with fellow Spaniard and new signing Mendez. INSTAGRAM/BENGALURUFC

BFC head coach Gerard Zaragoza stated that the squad is now packed with leaders.

"We have Bheke, who was captain of Mumbai City. We also have Noguera, Jorge and Almeira, who are leaders on the pitch. And then there is Sunil (Chhetri) and Gurpreet (Sandhu)."

Only Hyderabad FC scored fewer goals than BFC in ISL 2023-24, a hole that Zaragoza feels has been filled with the addition of quality strikers.

"Edgar has played over 150 games in La Liga. Edgar is an aggressive, attacking player – this is something we need.

"We need players to arrive in the box and score lots of goals. We had a lot of arrivals last season, but we could not score goals. With Edgar, Jorge, Sunil and Siva (Sivasakthi Narayanan), we have good strikers to score goals," Zaragoza said.

Jagan declared the winner after dead-heat

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

History was scripted at the Madras International Circuit on Sunday when a dead-heat finish, involving two TVS Racing teammates Jagan Kumar and Sarthak Chavan, was decided in favour of the former on the basis of the fastest lap of the race (Pro-Stock 165CC) as the second round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2024 came to a thrilling finish.

Top trio: Jagan, winner of Pro-Stock 165cc Open in a dead-heat finish, flanked by Sarthak Chavan and Deepak. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Provisional results (all six laps unless mentioned):

National Championship–Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open (Race-2): 1. Sarthak Chavan (TVS Racing) (11min, 06.298sec); 2. Chiranth Vishwanath (TVS Racing) (11:06.388); 3. Deepak Ravikumar (TVS Racing) (11:10.557).

Pro-Stock 165cc Open (Race-2): 1. Jagan Kumar (TVS Racing) (11:37.786); 2. Sarthak Chavan (11:37.786); 3. Deepak Ravikumar (11:44.162).

Girls (Stock 165cc) Race-2 (5 laps): 1. Jagathishree Kumaresan (One Racing) (11:04.106); 2. Ryhana Bee (Motul Sparks Racing) (11:04.182); 3. A.S. Ann Jennifer (Alpha Racing India) (11:04.327).

Novice (Stock165cc) Race-2: 1. Abdul Basim (Rockers Racing) (12:56.217); 2. Tasmai Cariappa (Motul Sparks Racing) (13:07.206); 3. Lal Nunsanga (Motul Sparks Racing) (13:07.502).

Stock 301-400cc (Novice) Race-2: 1. C. Pradeep (Private) (12:20.775); 2. Raj Kumar (RDX Torque Racing) (12:27.930); 3. Varun Nanjundegowda (Gusto Racing India) (02:03.803).

Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup–Open (NSF 250R) Race-2 (8 laps): 1. Mohsin Paramban (15:07.015); 2. Savion Sabu (15:10.965); 3. A.S. James (15:15.953).

TVS One-Make Championship: Open (Apache RR310) Race-2: 1. Manoj Yesuadiyan (11:47.555); 2. P. Jayanth (11:53.712); 3. V. Lokesh (11:55.233).

Hamilton ends 945-day wait to capture his 104th victory

BRITISH GP

Agence France-Presse
SILVERSTONE

Lewis Hamilton held off Max Verstappen in the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on Sunday for a first victory since Saudi Arabia in 2021 and after 945 days.

"I've been waiting for this," shouted Briton Hamilton after crossing the line in his Mercedes to claim a ninth victory at Silverstone, breaking a tie with Michael Schumacher for most wins at one track.

Lando Norris of McLaren was third.

After his record-extending 104th Formula One victory, the 39-year-old Hamilton wept as he fell into the arms of his father as the home crowd roared.

Hamilton's teammate George Russell, the winner a week earlier in Austria, was forced out with a water leak after starting from pole position.

Red Bull's Verstappen increased his lead in the drivers' standings over Norris by three points to 84 points despite failing to win for two consecutive races for the first time since Silverstone and Austria in 2022.

Tasting success, again! Hamilton scored a record-breaking ninth victory at Silverstone. REUTERS

The results: 1. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) 1:22:27.059s, 2. Max Verstappen (Red Bull) +1.465, 3. Lando Norris (McLaren) +7.547, 4. Oscar Piastri (McLaren) +12.429, 5. Carlos Sainz (Ferrari) +47.318.

6. Nico Hulkenberg (Haas) +55.722, 7. Lance Stroll (Aston Martin) +56.569, 8. Fernando Alonso (Aston Martin) +63.577, 9. Alexander Albon (Williams) +68.387, 10. Yuki Tsunoda (RB) +79.303, 11. Logan Sargeant (Williams) +88.960, 12. Kevin Magnussen (Haas) +90.153.

1 lap: 13. Daniel Ricciardo (RB), 14. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari), 15. Valtteri Bottas (Kick Sauber); **2 lap:** 16. Esteban Ocon (Alpine), 17. Sergio Perez (Red Bull), 18. Guanyu Zhou (Kick Sauber); DNF: 19. George Russell (Mercedes) and Pierre Gasly (Alpine).

Standings (top five):
Drivers: 1. Verstappen 255 points, 2. Norris 171, 3. Leclerc 150, 4. Sainz 146, 5. Piastri 124.
Constructors: 1. Red Bull 373, 2. Ferrari 302, 3. McLaren 295, 4. Mercedes 221, 5. Aston Martin 68.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

All-round show by Ansh

Ansh Aima (139 & 3/32) helped Visweswarampuram CC (2) defeat Whirlwind Cricketers in the KSCA Group I, Division II league.

The scores: Wilson Garden CC 105 in 45 overs (S. Toufeeq 45, Mahesh Kumar 3/25, Madhav Bajaj 5/11) and 155 in 48 overs (S. Toufeeq 28, Milind Mali 28, Pavan 25, Madhav Bajaj 3/46, Mahesh Kumar 4/36) lost to Century Cricketers 111 in 32.1 overs (Harsha Wardhan 44, N. Rohan 6/28, Pavan 3/17) and 153/6 in 45.2 overs (Likith Gowda 69 n.o., Madhav Bajaj 26, Shishir Bhavane 30, N. Rohan 3/40).

Visweswarampuram CC (2) 437/8 decl. in 79.2 overs (Rithin Christy 51, Diwakar Shankar 51, Ansh Aima 139, Madhava Dharwadkar 65, Shoaib Manager 85, Pradyumna Srivatsa 3/101) bt Whirlwind Cricketers 155 in 45.3 overs (Manik Raj 28, Sumukha Prasad 43, Tejas Reddy 47, Manuveer Mahajan 3/36, Ansh Aima 3/32) and 116 in 36.5 overs (Manuveer Mahajan 4/10, Harsh Oza 3/17).

Vijaya CC 198 in 58.1 overs (Liyan Khan 29, Abul Hasan 35, Zeeshan Ali 35, Lavish Kaushal 48, M.M. Poorvik 5/41, Shimon Luiz 3/71) and 201/9 decl. in 30.5 overs (Liyan Khan 63, Abul Hasan 50, N.S. Sachin 3/85, Shimon Luiz 5/79) drew with Jawahar SC (2) 143 in 46.4 overs (Shatak Gunjal 38, R. Ajith 43, Lavish Kaushal 3/33, Maliksab Shirur 4/33) and 125/5 in 39 overs (M.P. Samarth 31 n.o.).

Engrades CC 185 in 51.2 overs (Vishnu Balaji 55, T. Chiranjeevi 47, Punitkumar 4/36) and 167 in 42.2 overs (Karna Surya 42, Vijay Kumar 42, Shubham Kumar 4/43, Harmain 3/30) drew with Visweswarampuram CC (1) 114 in 40.3 overs (Amay Tejas 44 n.o., P.S. Vikram 27, Vijay Kumar 3/19, S. Ramanji 3/18) and 150/8 in 59 overs (Amay Tejas 36, P.S. Vikram 29, T. Chiranjeevi 3/17).

Dooravani Cricketers (1) 175 in 65.4 overs (Darun Reddy 64, M.P. Shashank 29, Amey Shanbhag 4/34) and 124/5 in 37 overs (V.H. Amey 26, Mohit Sharma 62 n.o., Samyak Vellalore 4/38) drew with Malleswaram Gymkhana 212 in 48.4 overs (R. Badrinaryanan 117 n.o., Amey Shanbhag 32, Digantha Umesh 7/76).

Modern CC 247 in 70.5 overs (R. Suhas 70, R. Shiv 65, J. Sukruth 34, D. Bharath 7/36) and 126/2 in 28.0 overs (R. Suhas 58 n.o., Pratheek 28) drew with The Bangalore Cricketers 200 in 58.1 overs (Rahul Shridhar 36, M. Tanush 39, R. Akshay 27, Manjunath 49, Kazi Abrar 5/49, Pranav Aswath 5/67).

Minerva CC 379 in 86.2 overs (Amogh Shetty 62, Prajwal Prakash 59, Jairam Srinivas 32, K.N. Anish 34, Arnav Arun 97, Naveen Bala 62, Mohit Pimplaapure 4/78) drew with Jupiter CA 216 in 61.5 overs (Prahas Nairy 81, P. Gourav 63, K.N. Anish 4/42, Jay Desai 3/16).

Chintamani SA 257 in 68.1 overs (Vrishin Arinjai 75, Anas Sheikh 31, Manoj Maruthi 31, V. Prithvi 3/25) and 103/2 in 29 overs (Saharsh Reddy 56 n.o.) drew with Jawahar SC (1) 189 in 62.2 overs (Amod Kaluve 55, Ayushman 28, S.B. Sanket 25, H.P. Abhishek 4/46, Shreehaan Arinjai 3/34).

Manjunath hits ton as Neptune posts huge win

S.P. Manjunath's 124 powered Neptune CC's big score in its win over Friends Union CC (2) in the KSCA Group I, Division III league here.

The scores: Neptune 316/9 in 50 overs (Rayan Ahmed 53, S.P. Manjunath 124, C.K. Akshay 69, Rajath Kini 3/62, Aditya Navalgund 3/56) bt Friends Union (2) 98 in 26.1 overs (K.H. Manoj 4/27); Palar SC 273/9 in 50 overs (N. Raghavendra 49, S. Abhijit 32, Preetesh 62, Vivian Daniel 39, Rahul Ihjallikar 35, Yathish 3/27) bt South End SC 80 in 24.4 overs (S. Abhijit 5/14).

RV College Engineering Gymkhana 268/8 in 50 overs (M.A. Adarsh 69, H.K. Vishwanath 55, Abhilash Fernandes 4/52) bt Jolly Cricketers 196 in 40.5 overs (Pragyan Hota 33, M.C. Ajith 25).

Cavaliers CC 167 in 40.5 overs (Mithesh Madhan 59, T. Srivardhan 25, Sarfaraz Ashraf 3/18) lost to Young Lions Club 168/6 in 35.3 overs (Vivek Naik 45, R. Yuvraj 26, Pavan Kumar 33 n.o.).